ADVENTURES OF THE MASK®

OMNIBUS

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DARK HORSE BOOKS®

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THE MASK® created by MIKE RICHARDSON

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THE MASK

comics adaptation
MIKE RICHARDSON

based on the screenplay by
MIKE WERB

story
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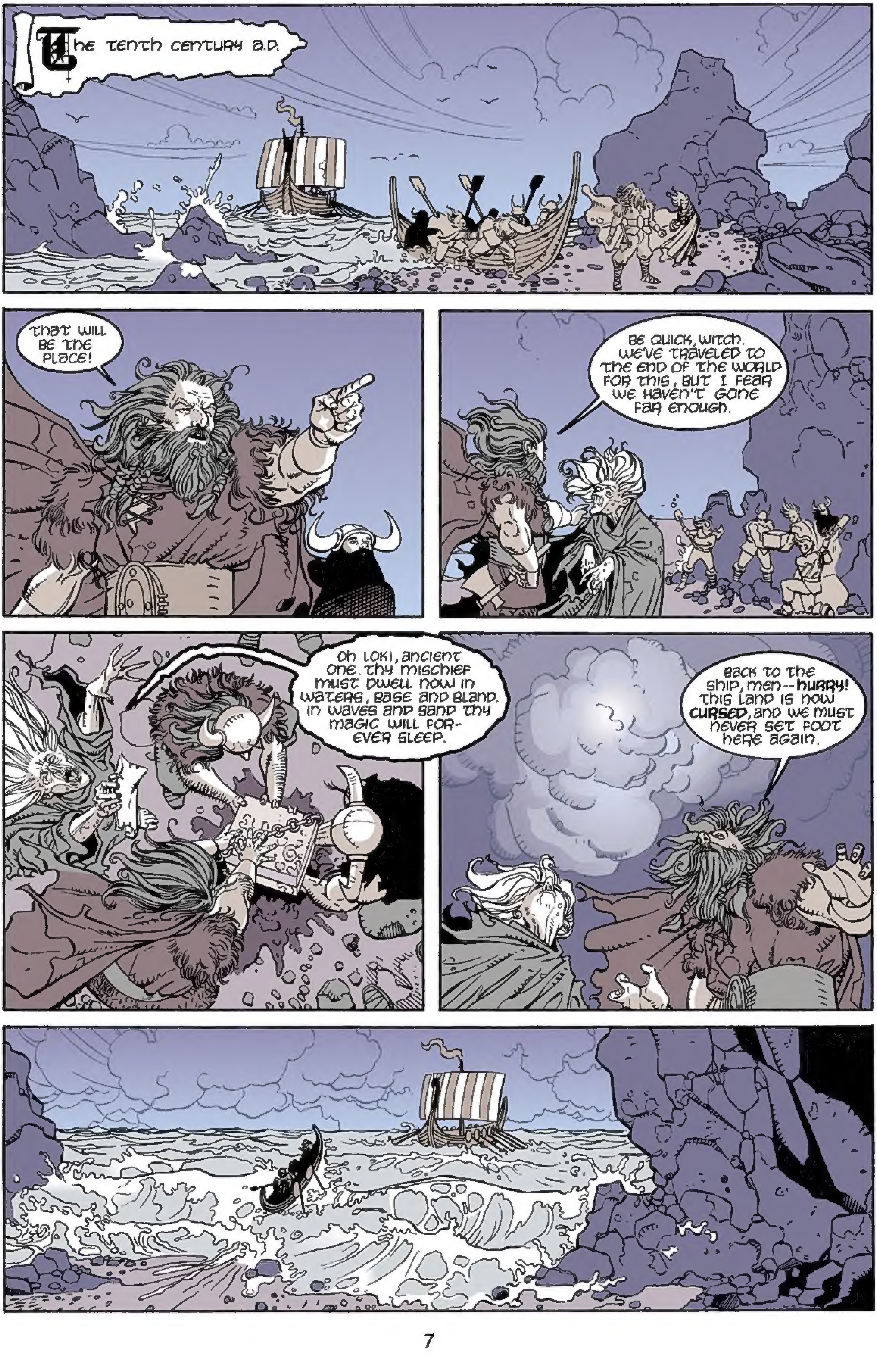
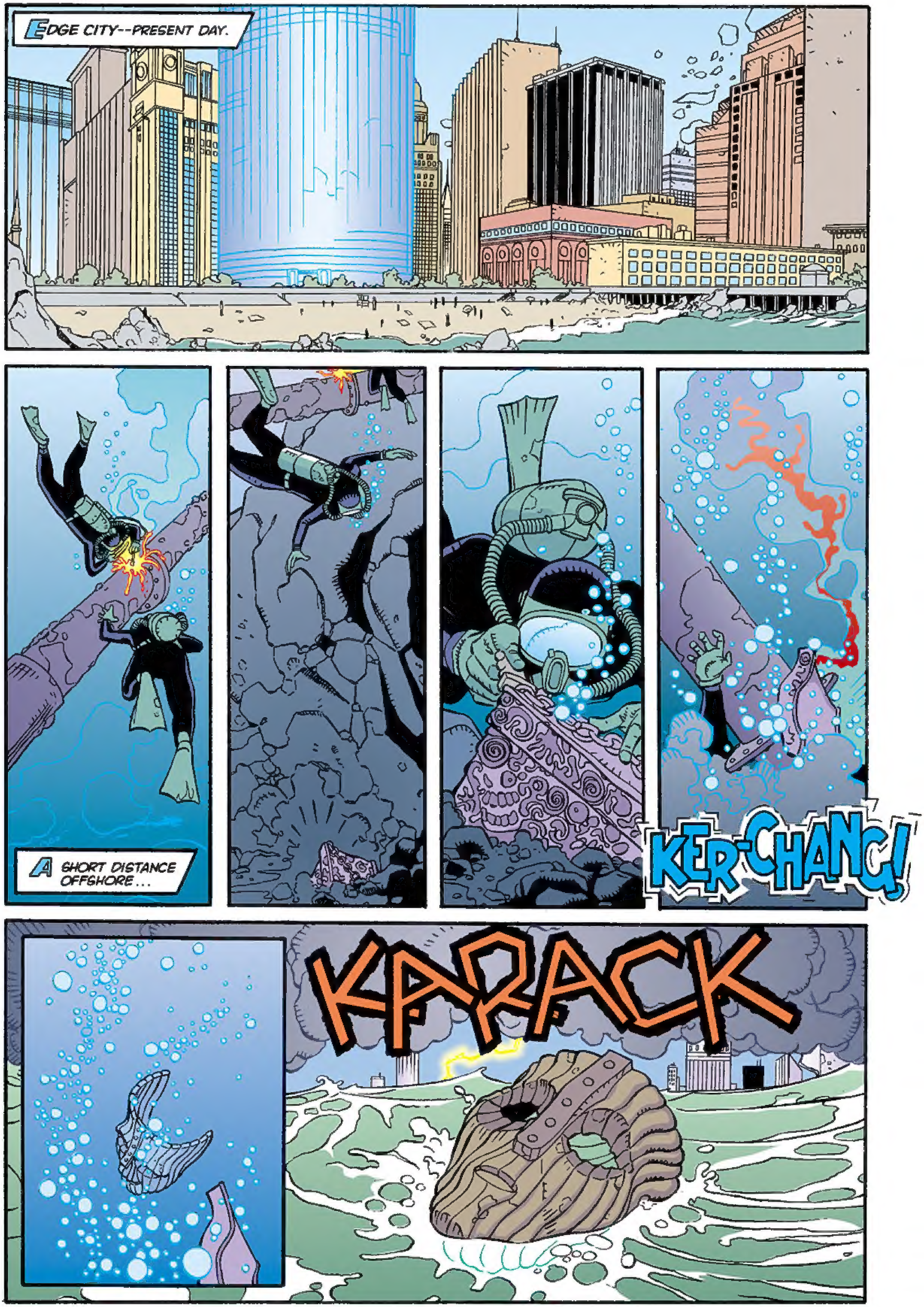
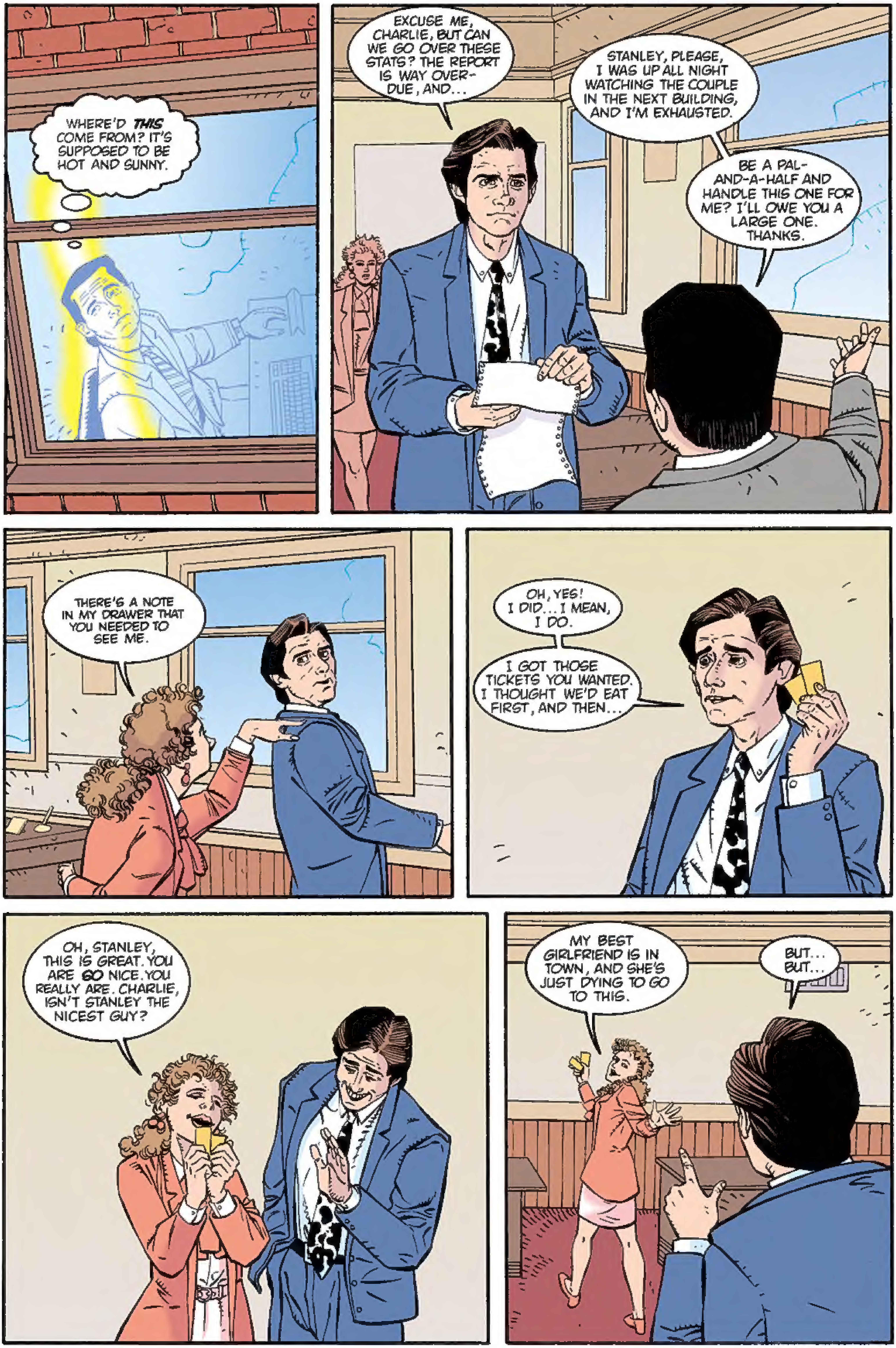
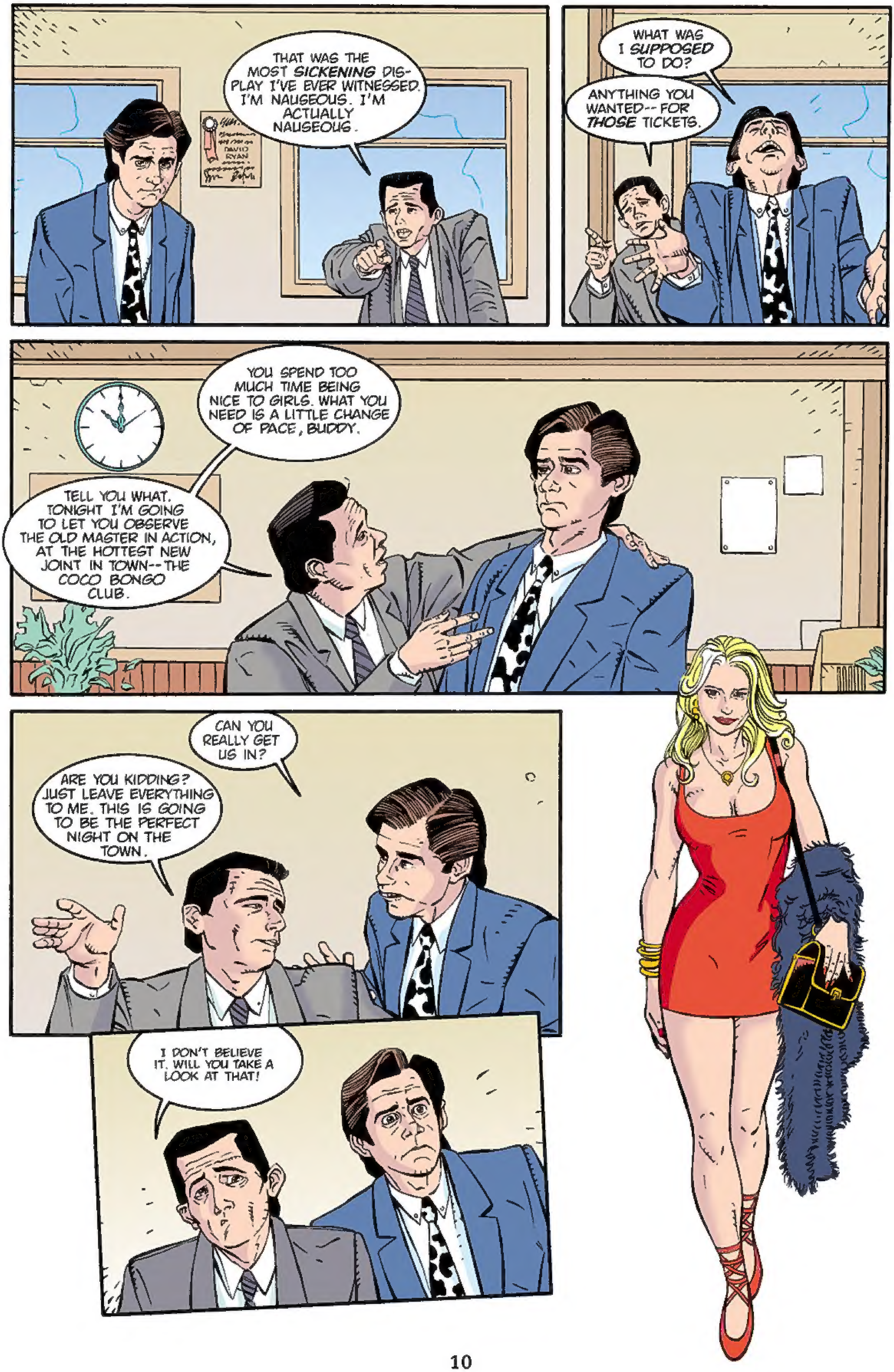
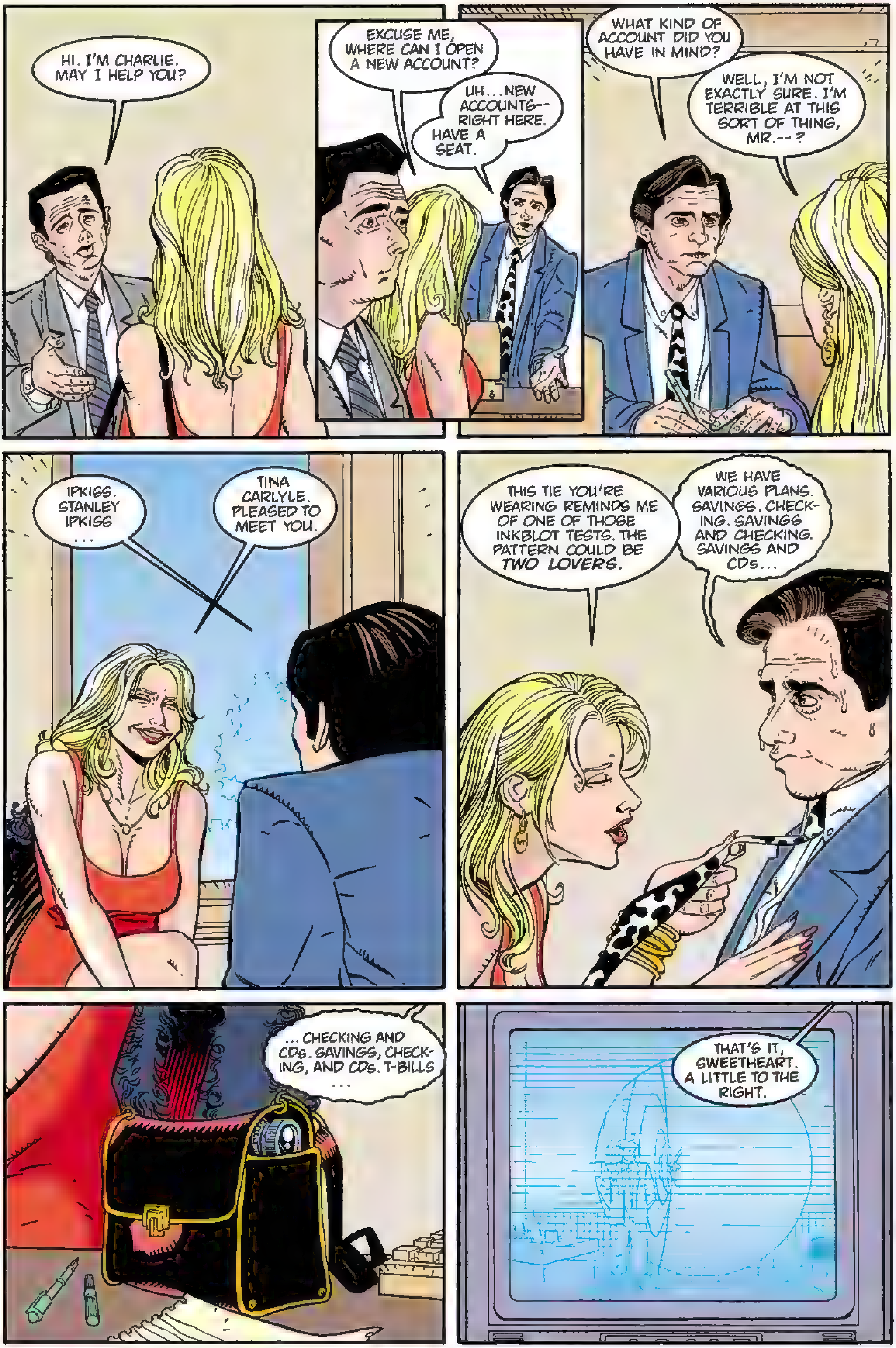
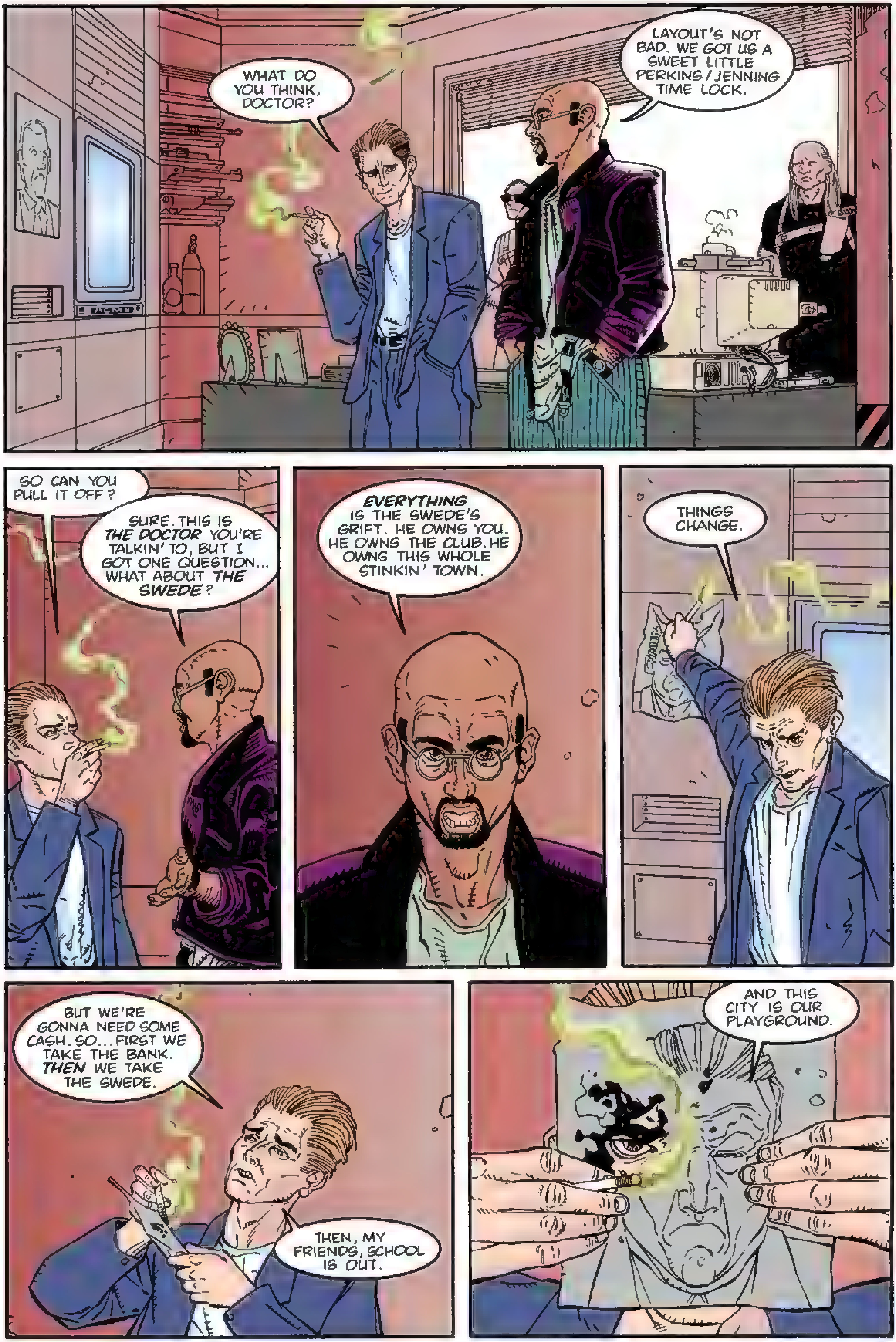

The tenth century A.D.
That will be the place!
Be quick, witch. We've traveled to the end of the world for this, but I fear we haven't gone far enough.
Oh Loki, ancient one. Thy mischief must dwell now in waters, base and bland. In waves and sand thy magic will forever sleep.
Back to the ship, men-- **hurry!** This land is now **cursed**, and we must never set foot here again.

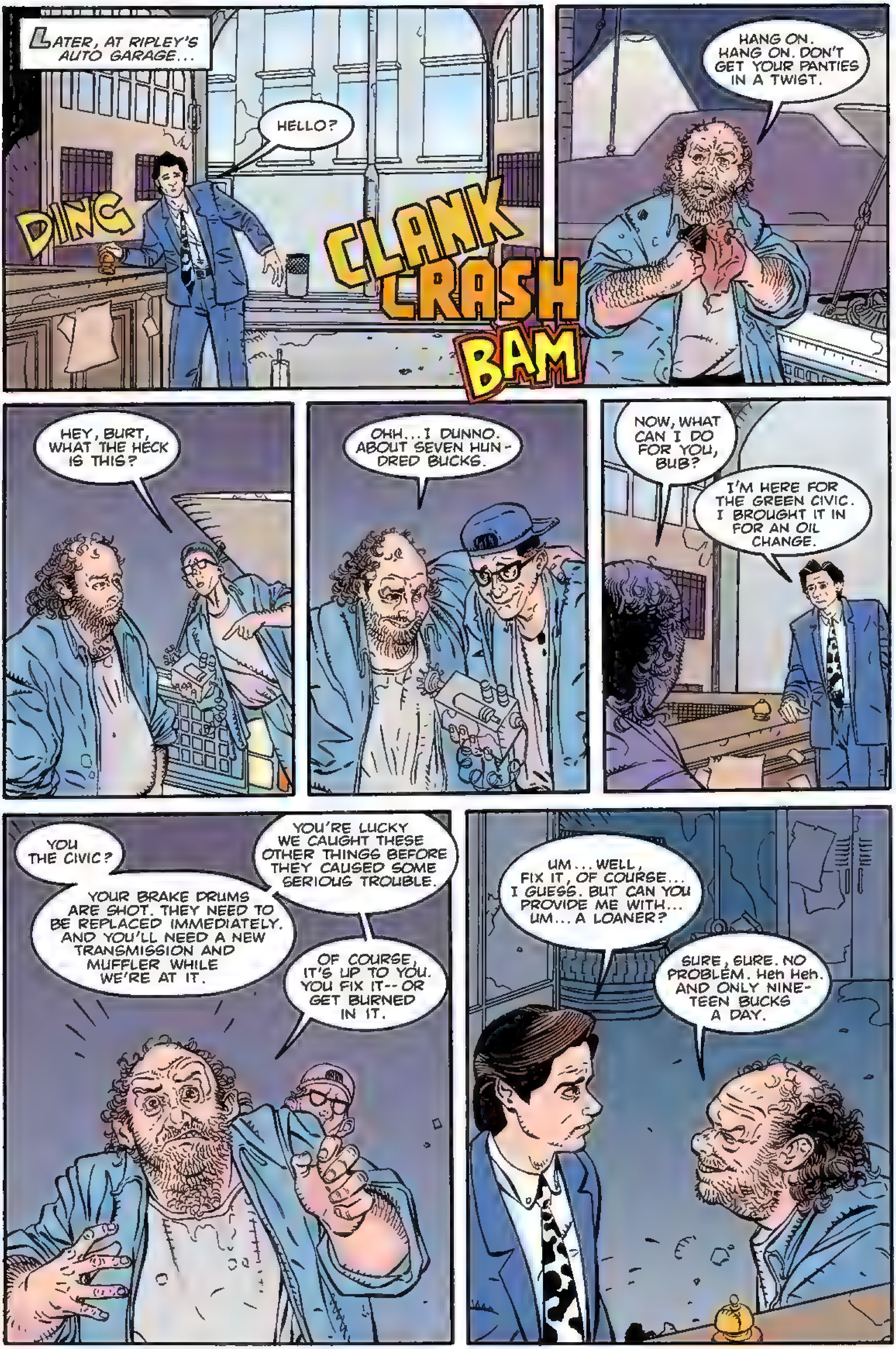

EDGE CITY--PRESENT DAY.
A SHORT DISTANCE OFFSHORE...
KER-CHANG!
KARACK

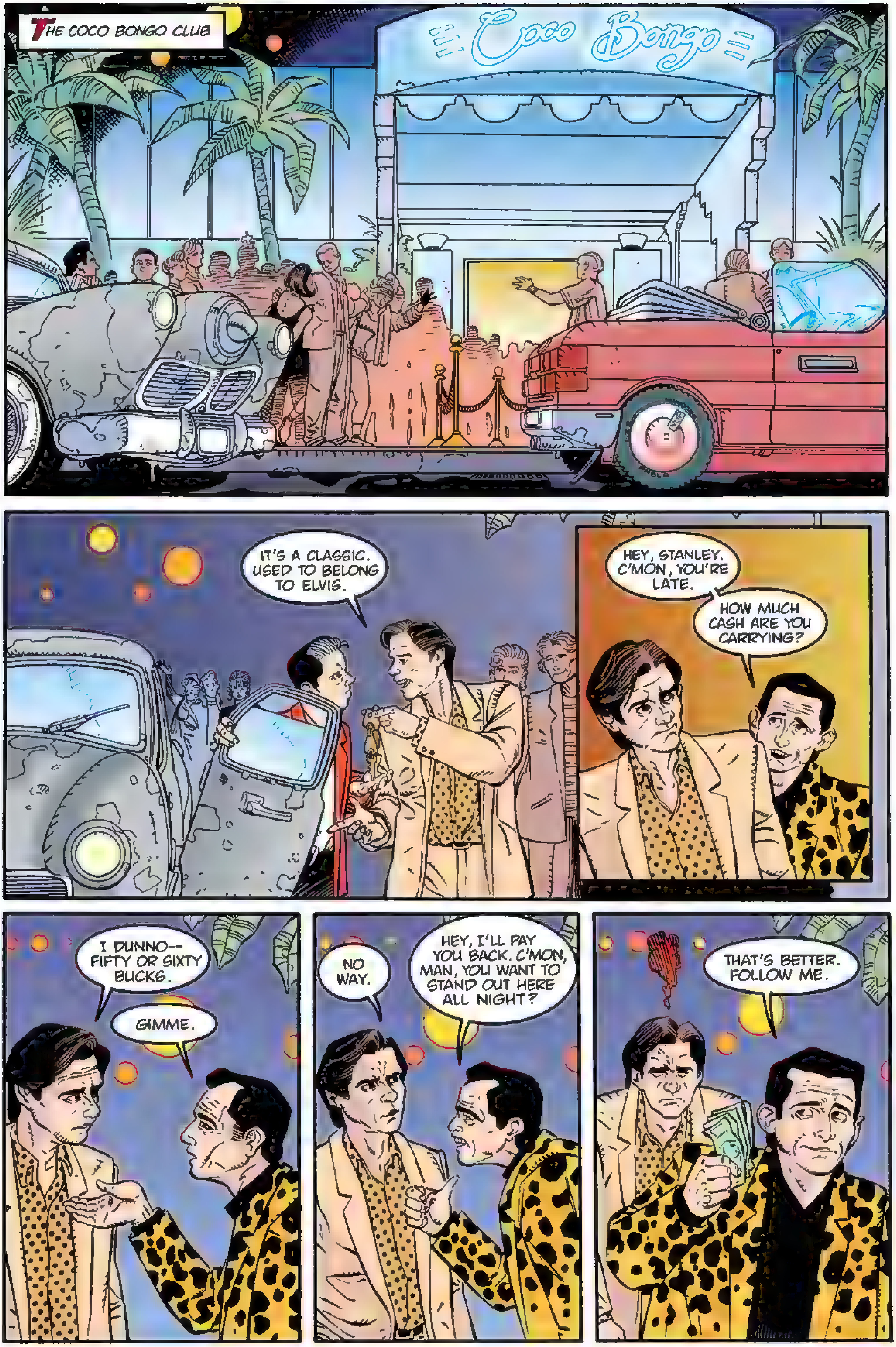

WHERE'D THIS COME FROM? IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE HOT AND SUNNY.
EXCUSE ME, CHARLIE, BUT CAN WE GO OVER THESE STATS? THE REPORT IS WAY OVERDUE, AND...
STANLEY, PLEASE, I WAS UP ALL NIGHT WATCHING THE COUPLE IN THE NEXT BUILDING, AND I'M EXHAUSTED.
BE A PAL-AND-A-HALF AND HANDLE THIS ONE FOR ME? I'LL OWE YOU A LARGE ONE. THANKS.
THERE'S A NOTE IN MY DRAWER THAT YOU NEEDED TO SEE ME.
OH, YES! I DID... I MEAN, I DO.
I GOT THOSE TICKETS YOU WANTED. I THOUGHT WE'D EAT FIRST, AND THEN...
OH, STANLEY, THIS IS GREAT. YOU ARE SO NICE. YOU REALLY ARE. CHARLIE, ISN'T STANLEY THE NICEST GUY?
MY BEST GIRLFRIEND IS IN TOWN, AND SHE'S JUST DYING TO GO TO THIS.
BUT... BUT...

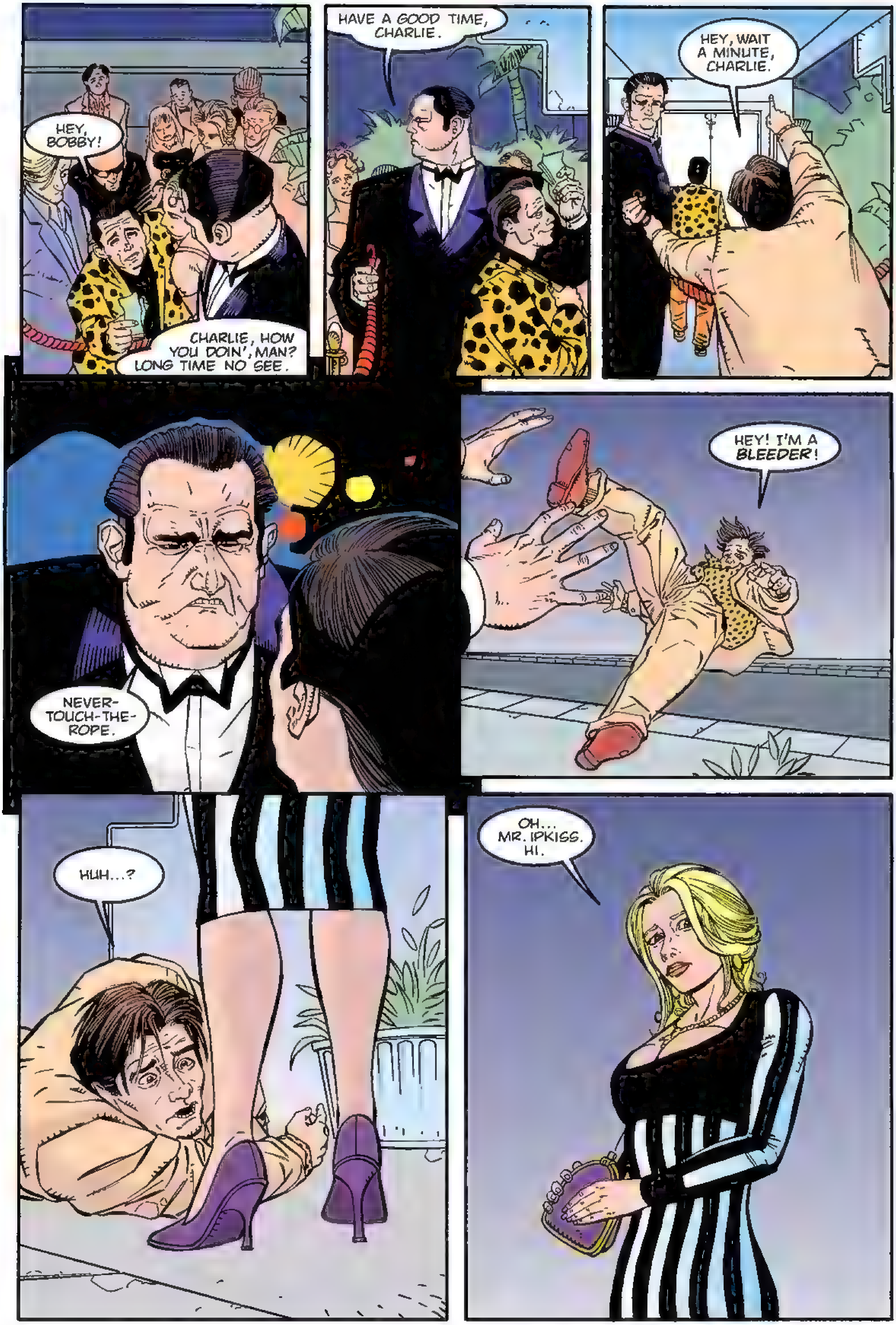

THAT WAS THE MOST **SICKENING** DISPLAY I'VE EVER WITNESSED. I'M NAUSEOUS. I'M ACTUALLY NAUSEOUS.
DAVID RYAN
WHAT WAS I ***SUPPOSED*** TO DO?
ANYTHING YOU WANTED-- FOR ***THOSE*** TICKETS.
YOU SPEND TOO MUCH TIME BEING NICE TO GIRLS. WHAT YOU NEED IS A LITTLE CHANGE OF PACE, BUDDY.
TELL YOU WHAT. TONIGHT I'M GOING TO LET YOU OBSERVE THE OLD MASTER IN ACTION, AT THE HOTTEST NEW JOINT IN TOWN-- THE COCO BONGO CLUB.
CAN YOU REALLY GET US IN?
ARE YOU KIDDING? JUST LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME. THIS IS GOING TO BE THE PERFECT NIGHT ON THE TOWN.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT. WILL YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THAT!

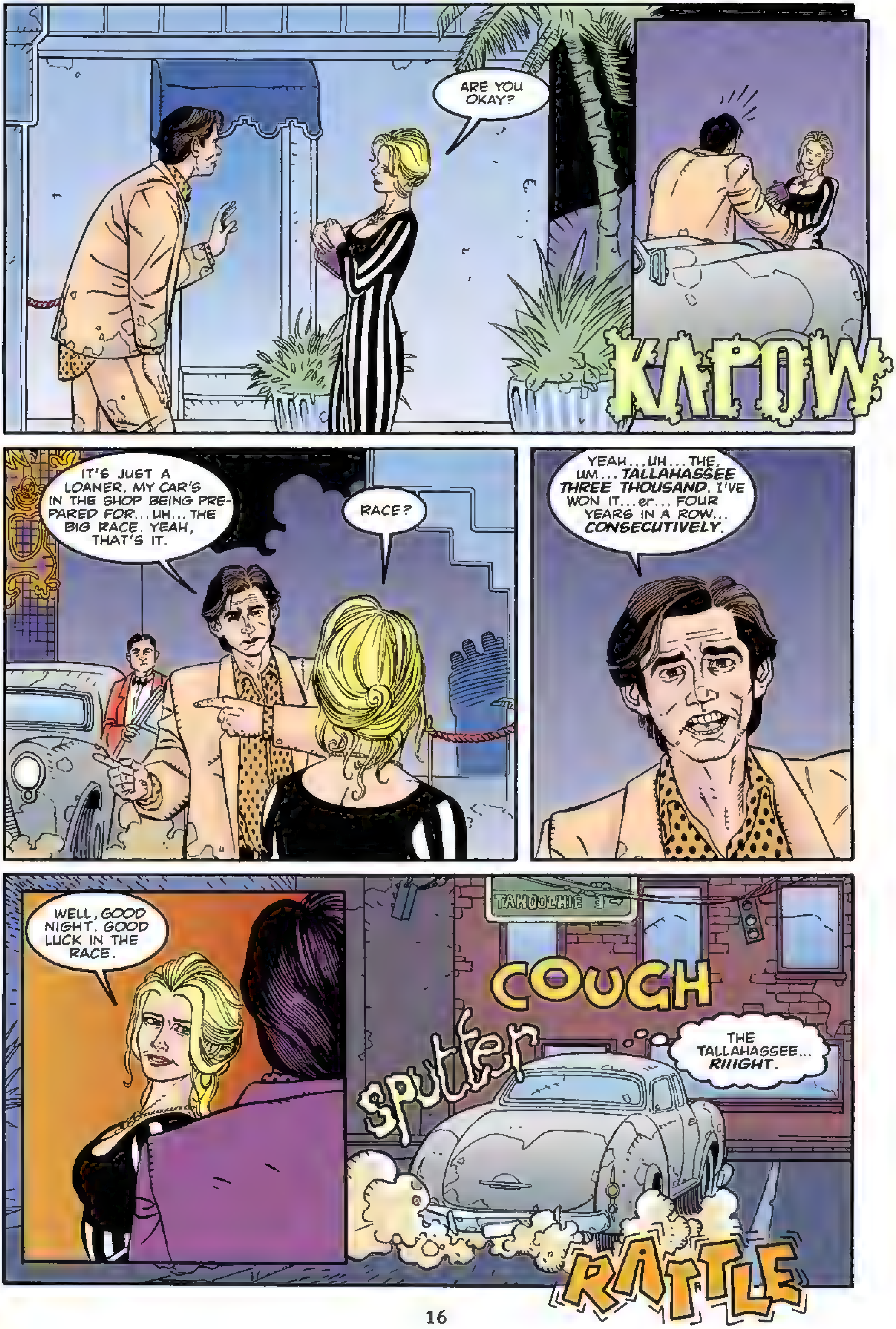

HI. I'M CHARLIE. MAY I HELP YOU?
EXCUSE ME, WHERE CAN I OPEN A NEW ACCOUNT?
UH... NEW ACCOUNTS-- RIGHT HERE. HAVE A SEAT.
WHAT KIND OF ACCOUNT DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?
WELL, I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE. I'M TERRIBLE AT THIS SORT OF THING, MR.-- ?
IPKISS. STANLEY IPKISS ...
TINA CARLYLE. PLEASED TO MEET YOU.
THIS TIE YOU'RE WEARING REMINDS ME OF ONE OF THOSE INKBLOT TESTS. THE PATTERN COULD BE *TWO LOVERS*.
WE HAVE VARIOUS PLANS. SAVINGS. CHECKING. SAVINGS AND CHECKING. SAVINGS AND CDs...
... CHECKING AND CDs. SAVINGS, CHECKING, AND CDs. T-BILLS ...
THAT'S IT, SWEETHEART. A LITTLE TO THE RIGHT.

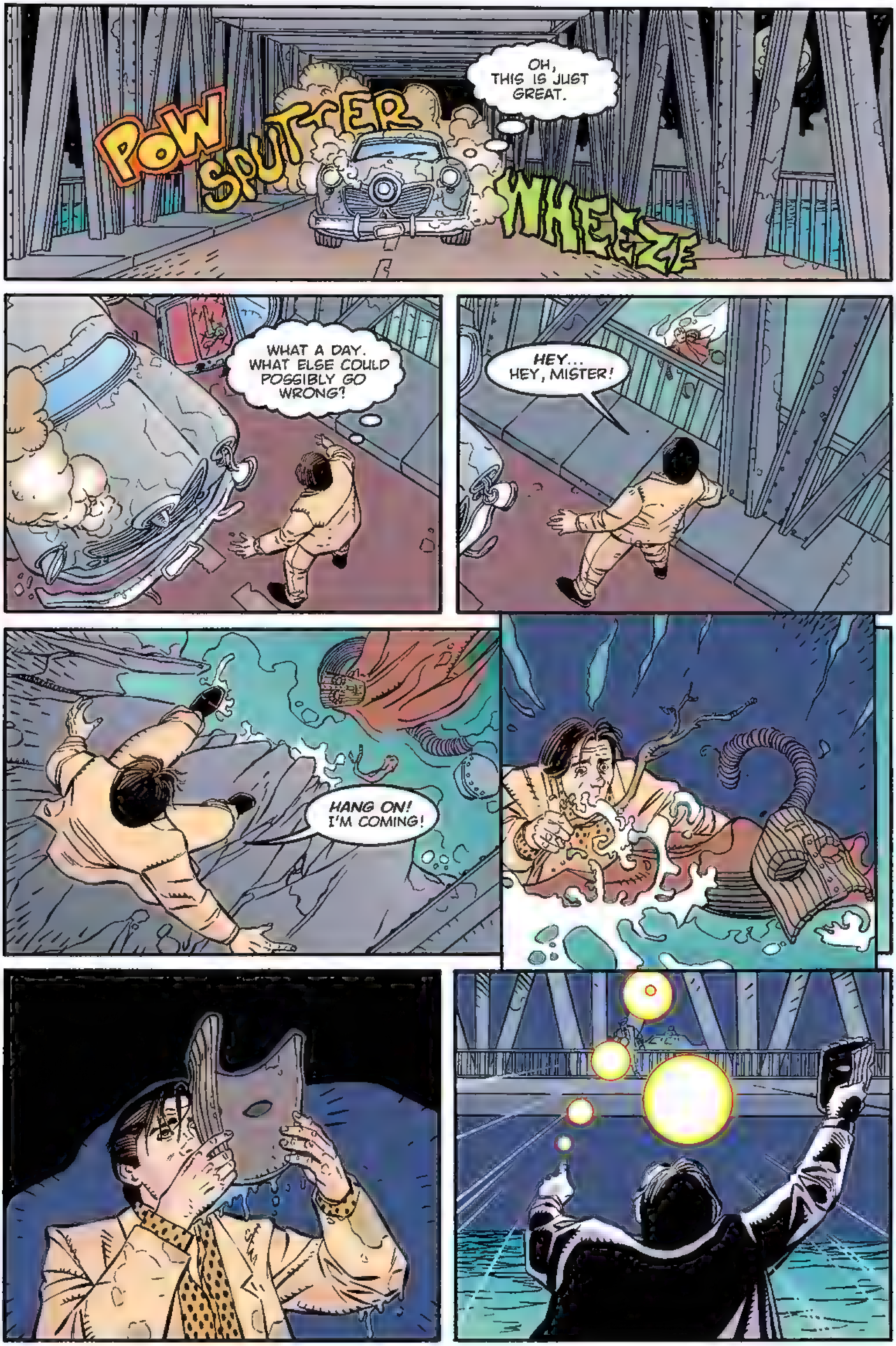

WHAT DO YOU THINK, DOCTOR?
LAYOUT'S NOT BAD. WE GOT US A SWEET LITTLE PERKINS / JENNING TIME LOCK.
ACME
SO CAN YOU PULL IT OFF?
SURE. THIS IS *THE DOCTOR* YOU'RE TALKIN' TO, BUT I GOT ONE QUESTION... WHAT ABOUT *THE SWEDE*?
EVERYTHING IS THE SWEDE'S GRIFT. HE OWNS YOU. HE OWNS THE CLUB. HE OWNS THIS WHOLE STINKIN' TOWN.
THINGS CHANGE.
BUT WE'RE GONNA NEED SOME CASH. SO... FIRST WE TAKE THE BANK. *THEN* WE TAKE THE SWEDE.
THEN, MY FRIENDS, SCHOOL IS OUT.
AND THIS CITY IS OUR PLAYGROUND.

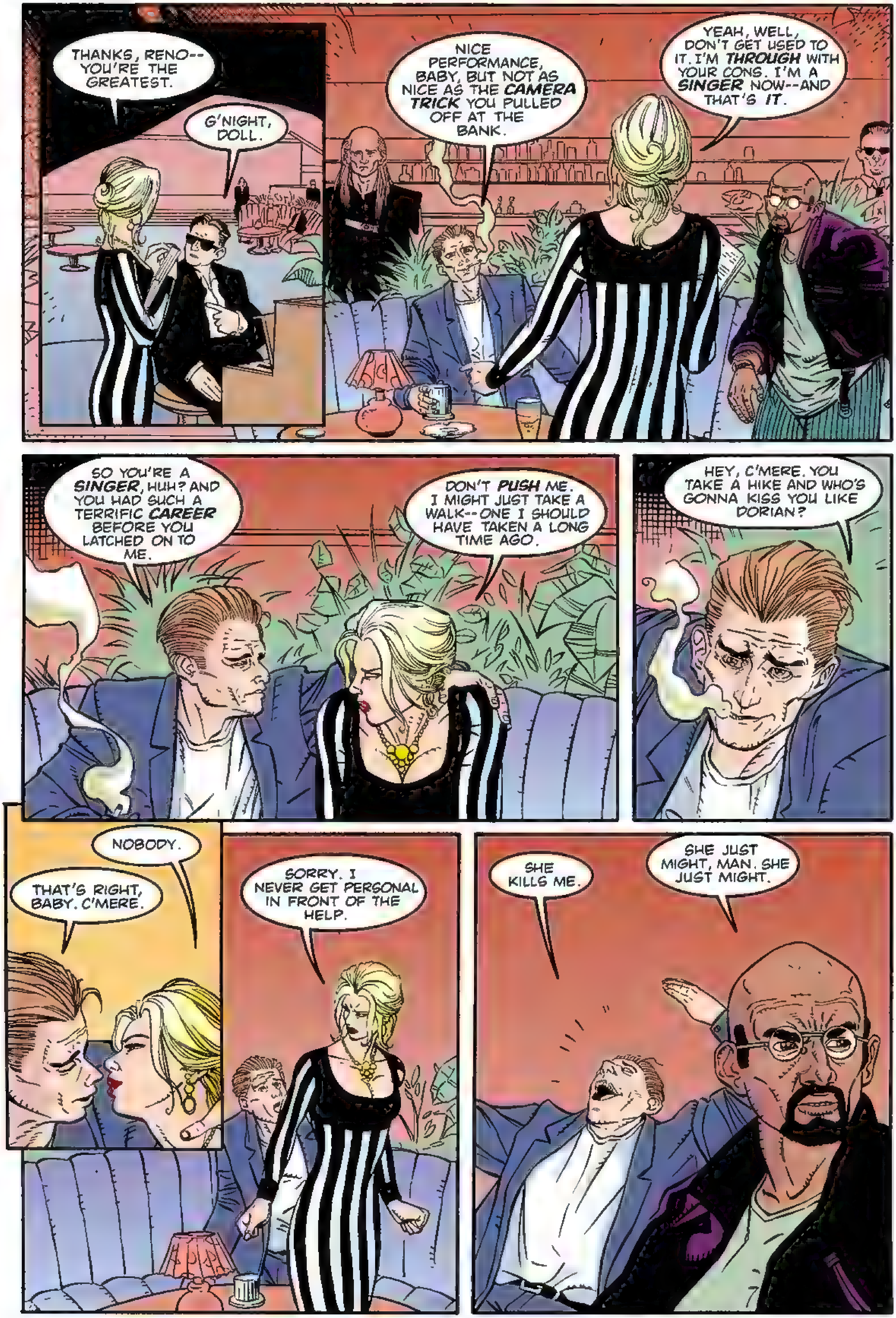

LATER, AT RIPLEY'S AUTO GARAGE...
HELLO?
DING
CLANK
CRASH
BAM
HANG ON. HANG ON. DON'T GET YOUR PANTIES IN A TWIST.
HEY, BURT, WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
OHH... I DUNNO. ABOUT SEVEN HUNDRED BUCKS.
NOW, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, BUB?
I'M HERE FOR THE GREEN CIVIC. I BROUGHT IT IN FOR AN OIL CHANGE.
YOU THE CIVIC?
YOUR BRAKE DRUMS ARE SHOT. THEY NEED TO BE REPLACED IMMEDIATELY. AND YOU'LL NEED A NEW TRANSMISSION AND MUFFLER WHILE WE'RE AT IT.
YOU'RE LUCKY WE CAUGHT THESE OTHER THINGS BEFORE THEY CAUSED SOME SERIOUS TROUBLE.
OF COURSE, IT'S UP TO YOU. YOU FIX IT-- OR GET BURNED IN IT.
UM... WELL, FIX IT, OF COURSE... I GUESS. BUT CAN YOU PROVIDE ME WITH... UM... A LOANER?
SURE, SURE. NO PROBLEM. Heh Heh. AND ONLY NINETEEN BUCKS A DAY.

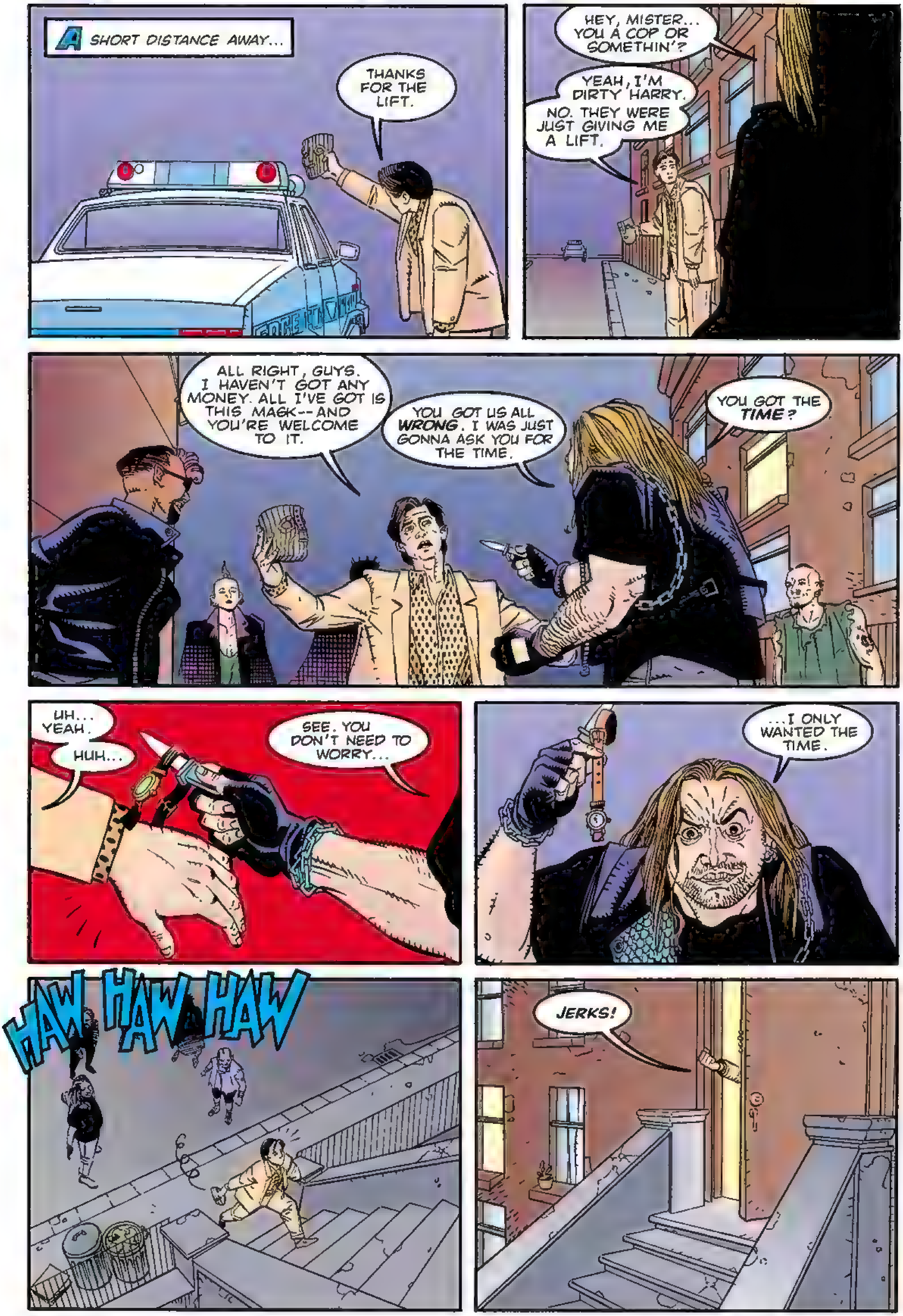

THE COCO BONGO CLUB
Coco Bongo
IT'S A CLASSIC. USED TO BELONG TO ELVIS.
HEY, STANLEY. C'MON, YOU'RE LATE.
HOW MUCH CASH ARE YOU CARRYING?
I DUNNO--FIFTY OR SIXTY BUCKS.
GIMME.
NO WAY.
HEY, I'LL PAY YOU BACK. C'MON, MAN, YOU WANT TO STAND OUT HERE ALL NIGHT?
THAT'S BETTER. FOLLOW ME.

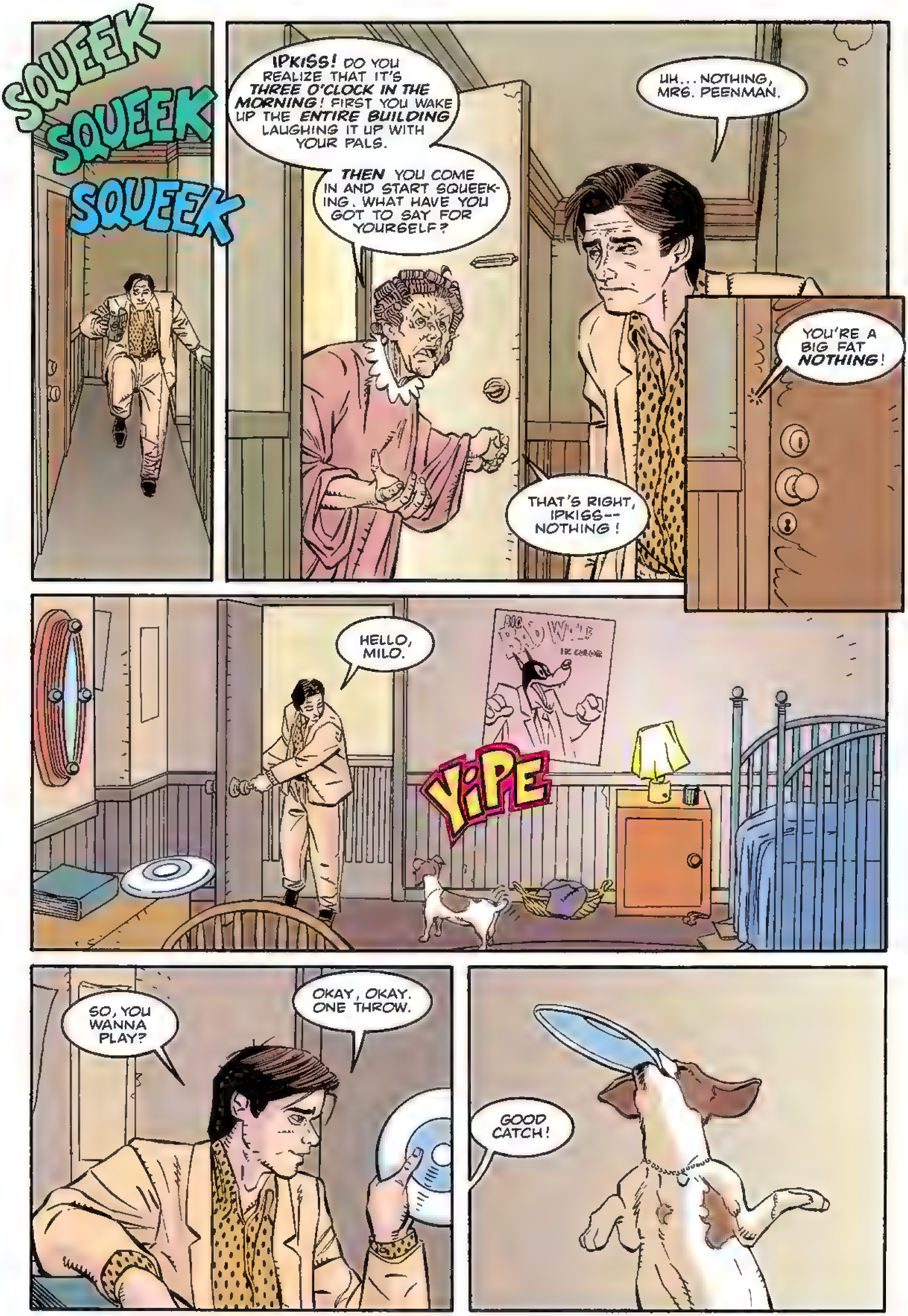

HEY, BOBBY!
CHARLIE, HOW YOU DOIN', MAN? LONG TIME NO SEE.
HAVE A GOOD TIME, CHARLIE.
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE, CHARLIE.
NEVER-TOUCH-THE-ROPE.
HEY! I'M A **BLEEDER**!
HUH...?
OH... MR. IPKISS. HI.

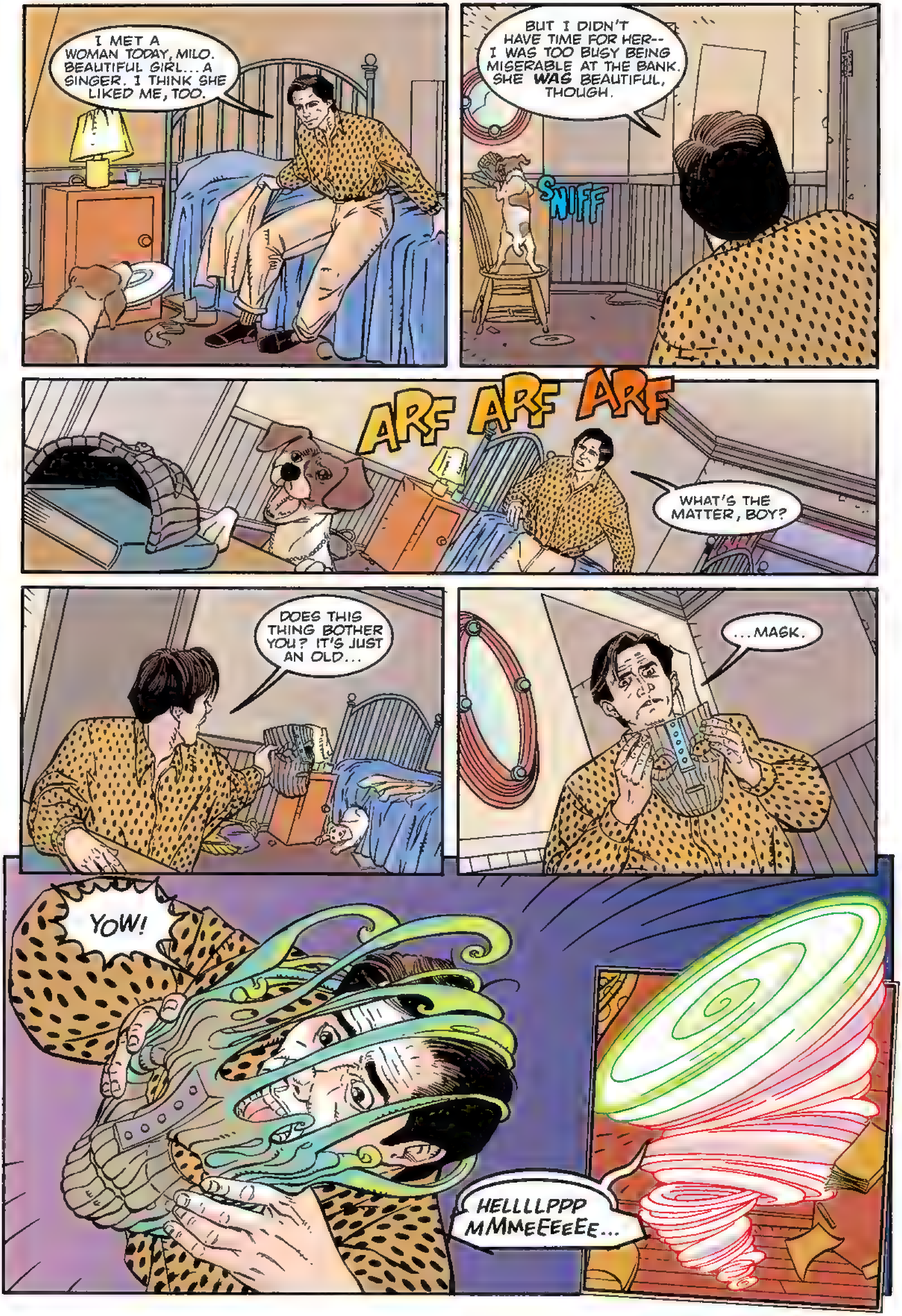

ARE YOU OKAY?
KAPOW
IT'S JUST A LOANER. MY CAR'S IN THE SHOP BEING PREPARED FOR... UH... THE BIG RACE. YEAH, THAT'S IT.
RACE?
YEAH... UH... THE, UM... *TALLAHASSEE THREE THOUSAND.* I'VE WON IT... er... FOUR YEARS IN A ROW... *CONSECUTIVELY.*
WELL, GOOD NIGHT. GOOD LUCK IN THE RACE.
TAHOOCHIE
COUGH
sputter
THE TALLAHASSEE... *RIIIGHT.*
RATTLE

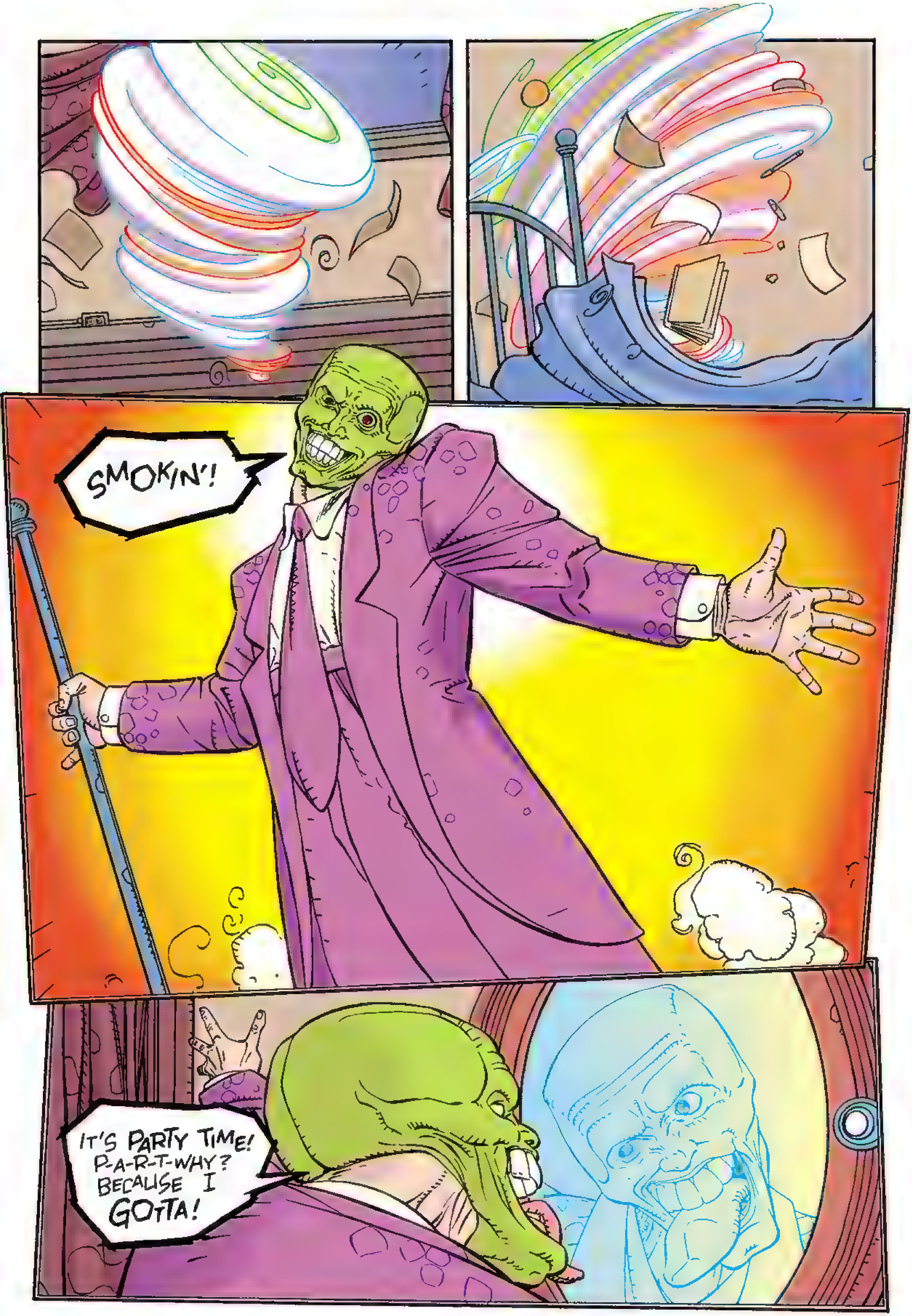

POW
SPUTTER
OH, THIS IS JUST GREAT.
WHEEZE
WHAT A DAY. WHAT ELSE COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG?
HEY... HEY, MISTER!
HANG ON! I'M COMING!

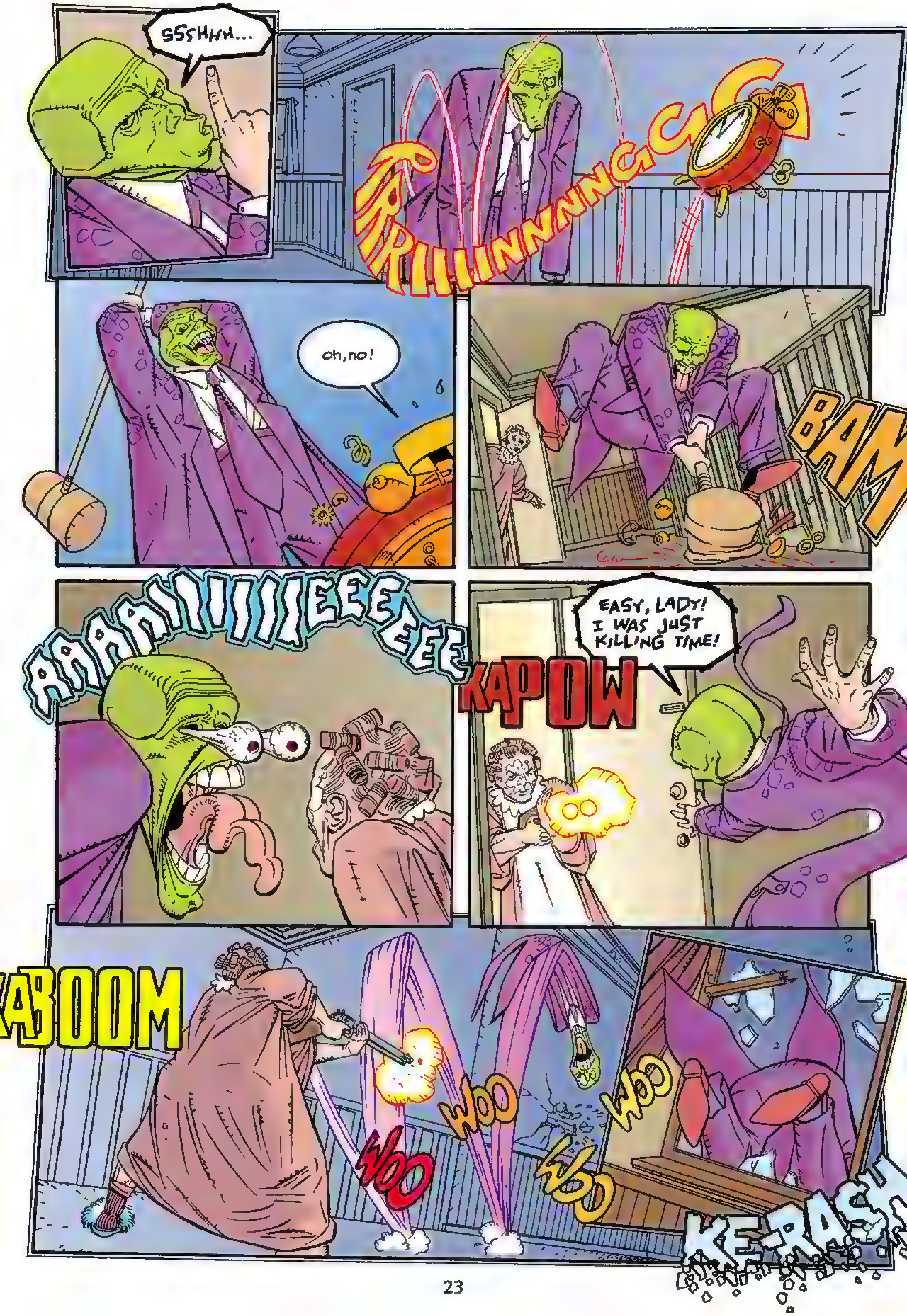

THANKS, RENO--YOU'RE THE GREATEST.
G'NIGHT, DOLL.
NICE PERFORMANCE, BABY, BUT NOT AS NICE AS THE *CAMERA TRICK* YOU PULLED OFF AT THE BANK.
YEAH, WELL, DON'T GET USED TO IT. I'M *THROUGH* WITH YOUR CONS. I'M A *SINGER* NOW--AND THAT'S *IT*.
SO YOU'RE A *SINGER*, HUH? AND YOU HAD SUCH A TERRIFIC *CAREER* BEFORE YOU LATCHED ON TO ME.
DON'T *PUSH* ME. I MIGHT JUST TAKE A WALK--ONE I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN A LONG TIME AGO.
HEY, C'MERE. YOU TAKE A HIKE AND WHO'S GONNA KISS YOU LIKE DORIAN?
NOBODY.
THAT'S RIGHT, BABY. C'MERE.
SORRY. I NEVER GET PERSONAL IN FRONT OF THE HELP.
SHE KILLS ME.
SHE JUST MIGHT, MAN. SHE JUST MIGHT.

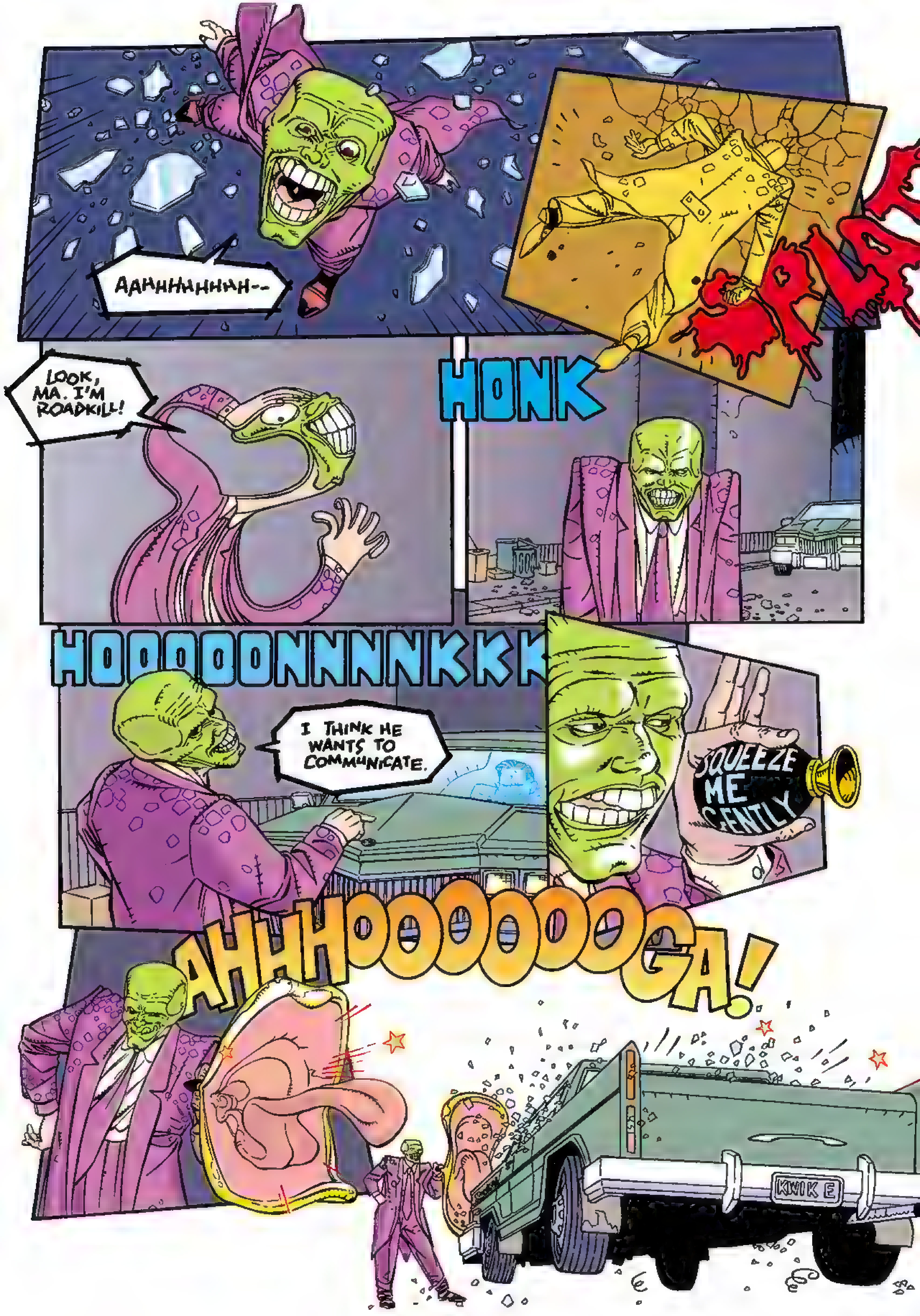

A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...
THANKS FOR THE LIFT.
HEY, MISTER... YOU A COP OR SOMETHIN'?
YEAH, I'M DIRTY HARRY.
NO. THEY WERE JUST GIVING ME A LIFT.
ALL RIGHT, GUYS. I HAVEN'T GOT ANY MONEY. ALL I'VE GOT IS THIS MASK--AND YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT.
YOU GOT US ALL **WRONG**. I WAS JUST GONNA ASK YOU FOR THE TIME.
YOU GOT THE **TIME**?
UH... YEAH.
HUH...
SEE. YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY...
...I ONLY WANTED THE TIME.
HAW HAW HAW
JERKS!

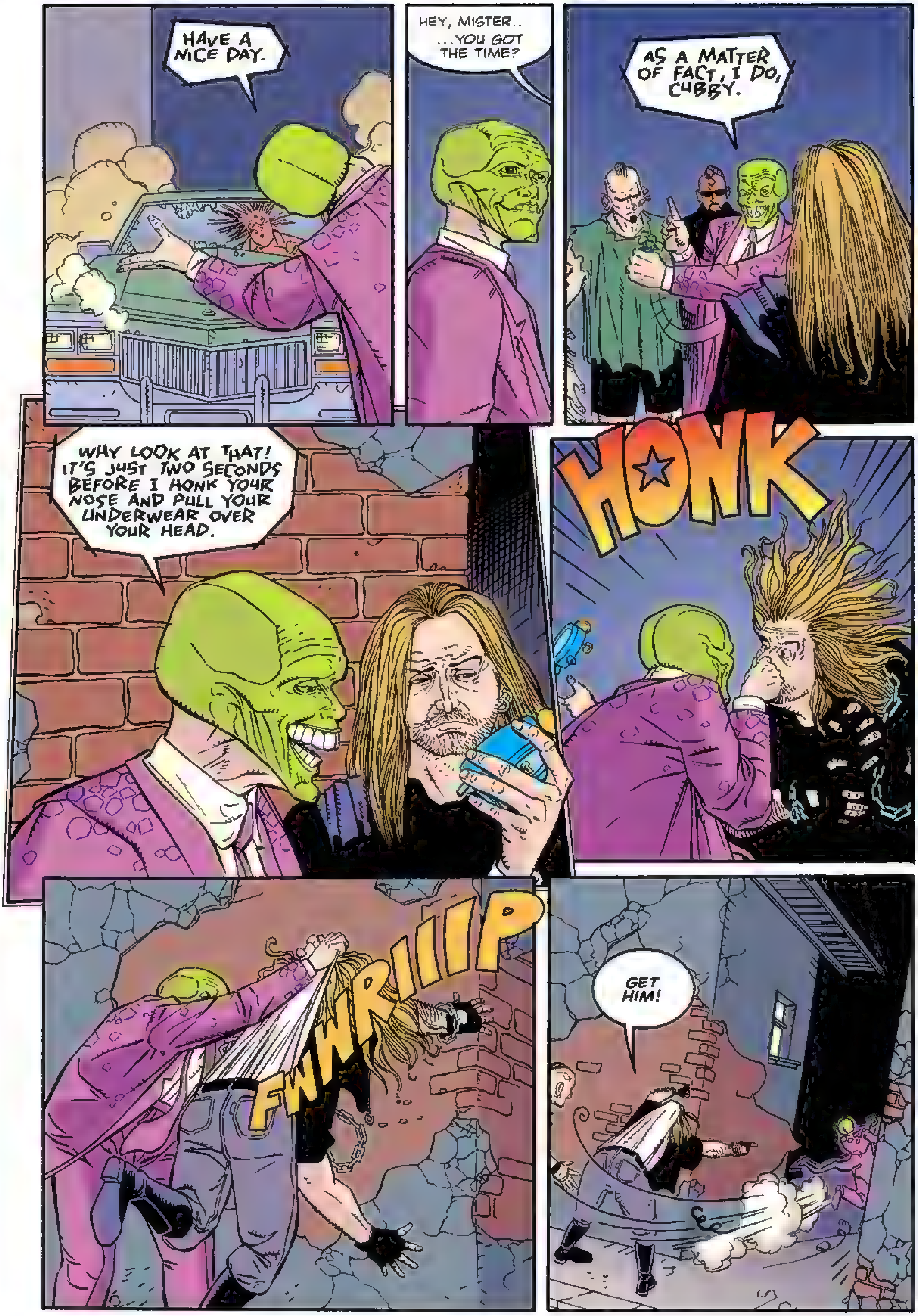

SQUEEK
SQUEEK
SQUEEK
IPKISS! DO YOU REALIZE THAT IT'S *THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING*! FIRST YOU WAKE UP THE *ENTIRE BUILDING* LAUGHING IT UP WITH YOUR PALS.
THEN YOU COME IN AND START SQUEEKING. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
UH... NOTHING, MRS. PEENMAN.
THAT'S RIGHT, IPKISS-- NOTHING!
YOU'RE A BIG FAT *NOTHING*!
HELLO, MILO.
BIG BAD WOLF
IN COLOR
YIPE
SO, YOU WANNA PLAY?
OKAY, OKAY. ONE THROW.
GOOD CATCH!

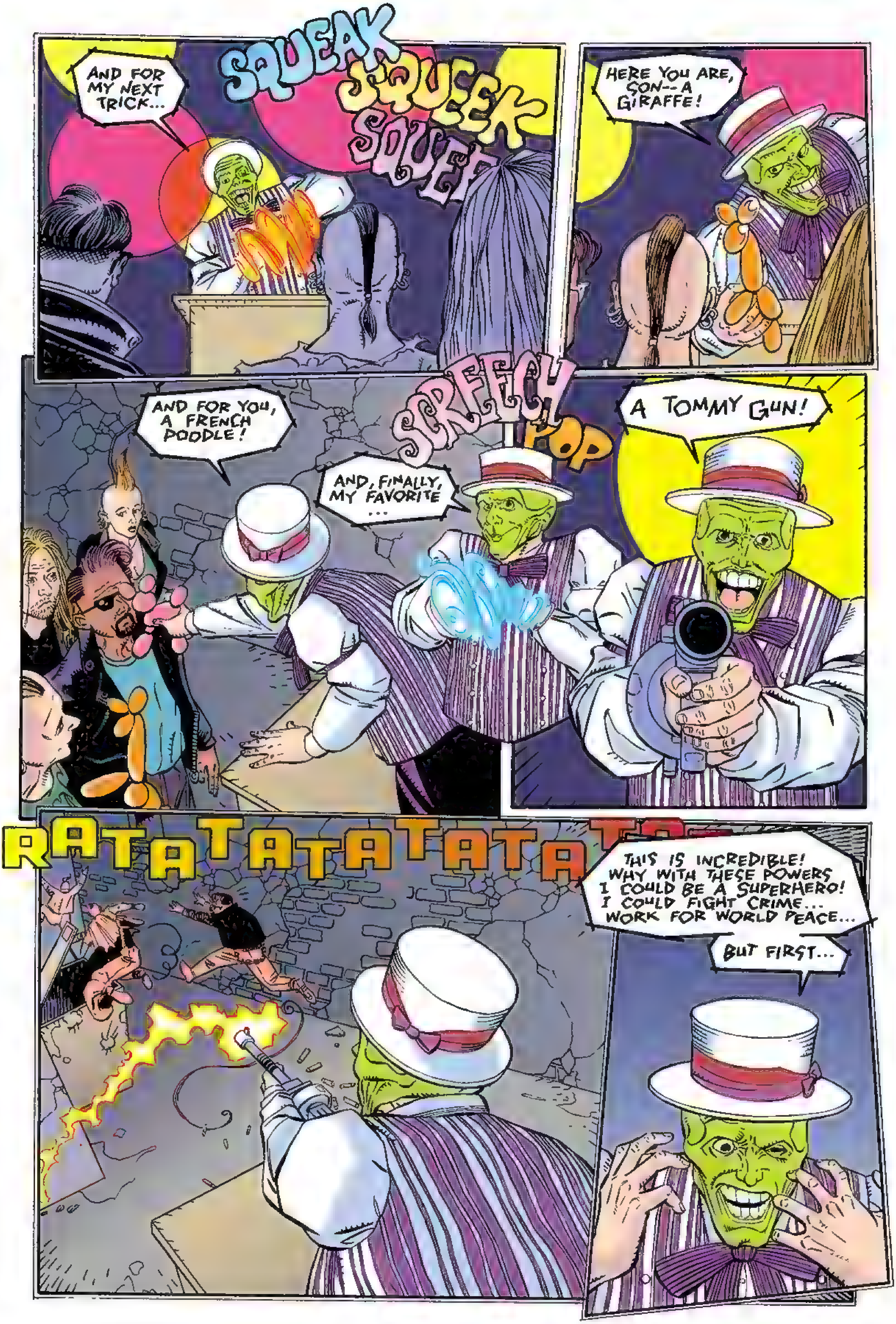

I MET A WOMAN TODAY, MILO. BEAUTIFUL GIRL... A SINGER. I THINK SHE LIKED ME, TOO.
BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME FOR HER-- I WAS TOO BUSY BEING MISERABLE AT THE BANK. SHE **WAS** BEAUTIFUL, THOUGH.
SNIFF
ARF ARF ARF
WHAT'S THE MATTER, BOY?
DOES THIS THING BOTHER YOU? IT'S JUST AN OLD...
...MASK.
YOW!
HELLLLPPP MMMEEEEEE...

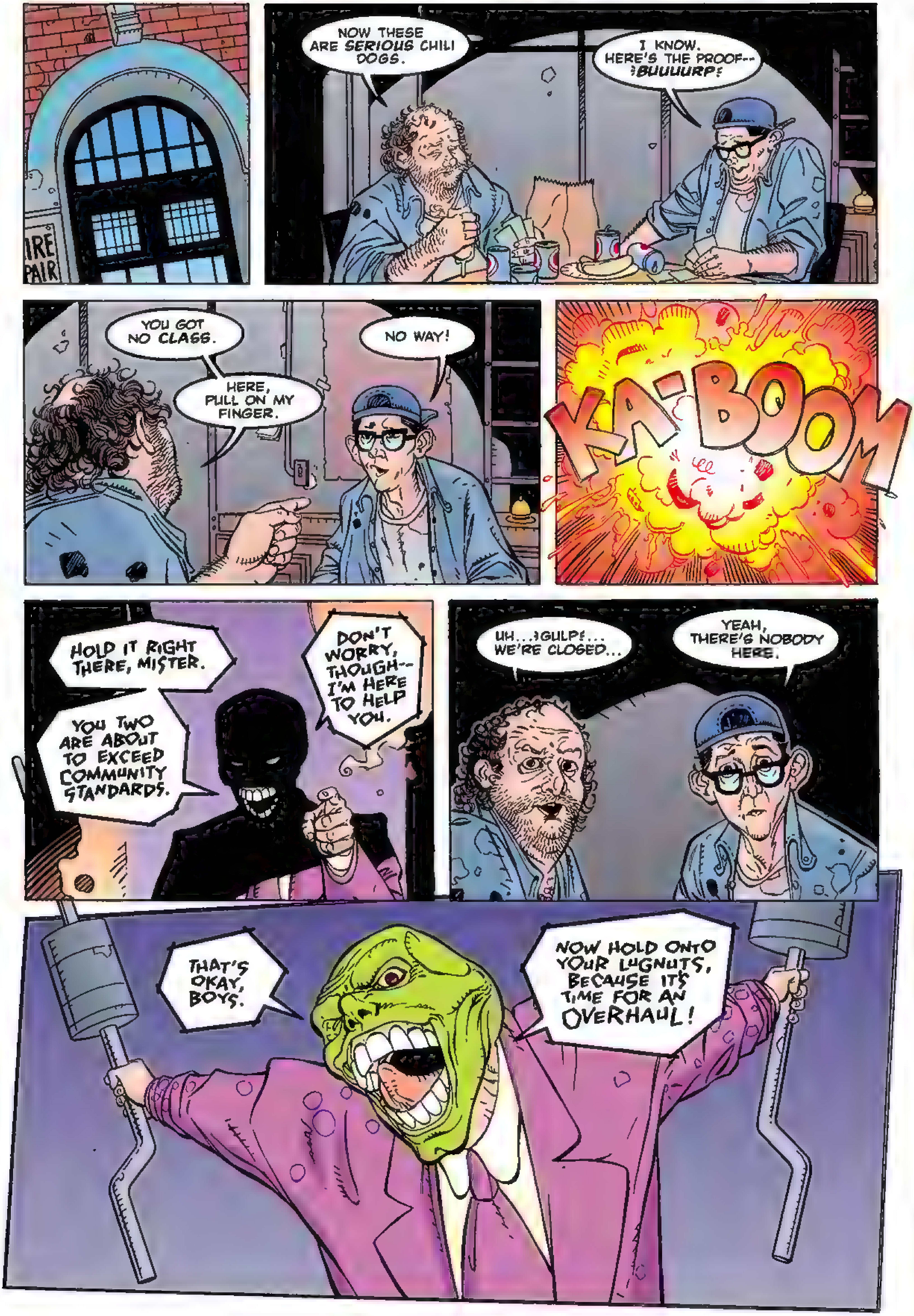

SMOKIN'!
IT'S PARTY TIME! P-A-R-T-WHY? BECAUSE I GOTTA!

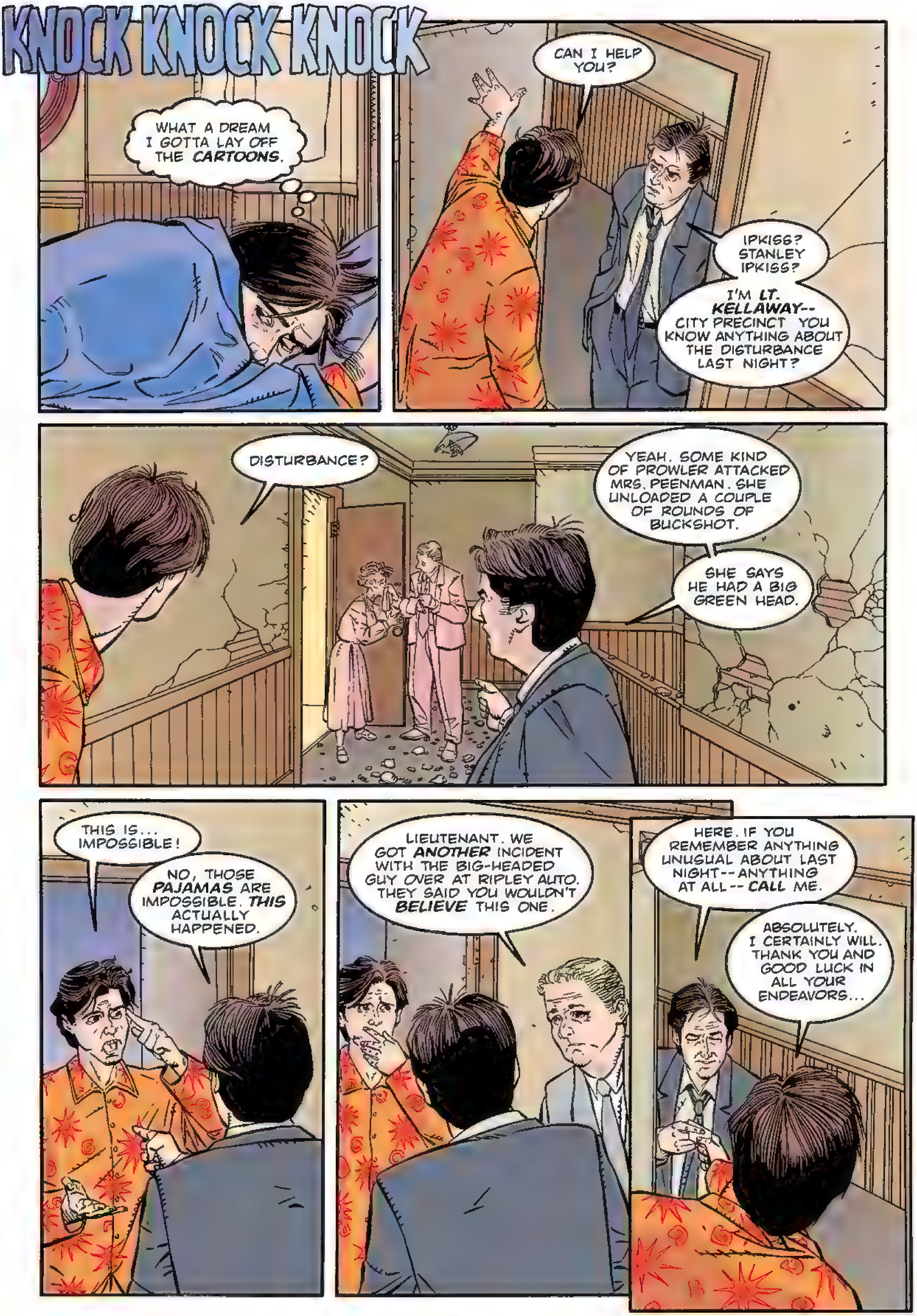

SSSHHH...
RRIIIIINNNNGGG
oh, no!
BAM
AAARRIIIIIIEEEEEEE
KAPOW
EASY, LADY! I WAS JUST KILLING TIME!
KABOOM
WOO
WOO
WOO
WOO
WOO
KE-RASH

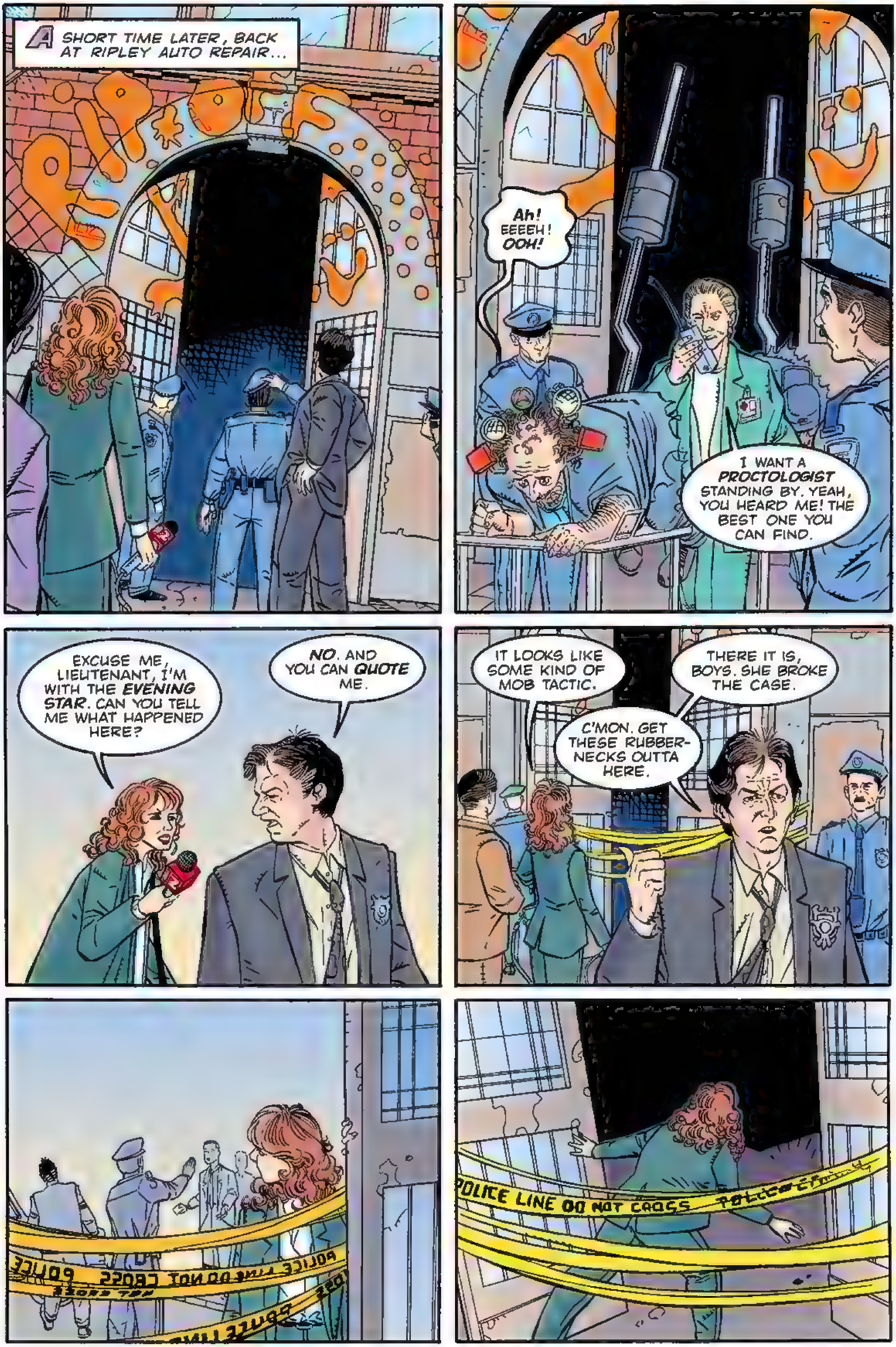

AAHHHHHHAH--
SPLA
LOOK, MA. I'M ROADKILL!
HONK
HOOOOONNNNKKK
I THINK HE WANTS TO COMMUNICATE.
SQUEEZE ME GENTLY
AHHHOOOOOOGA!
KWIK E

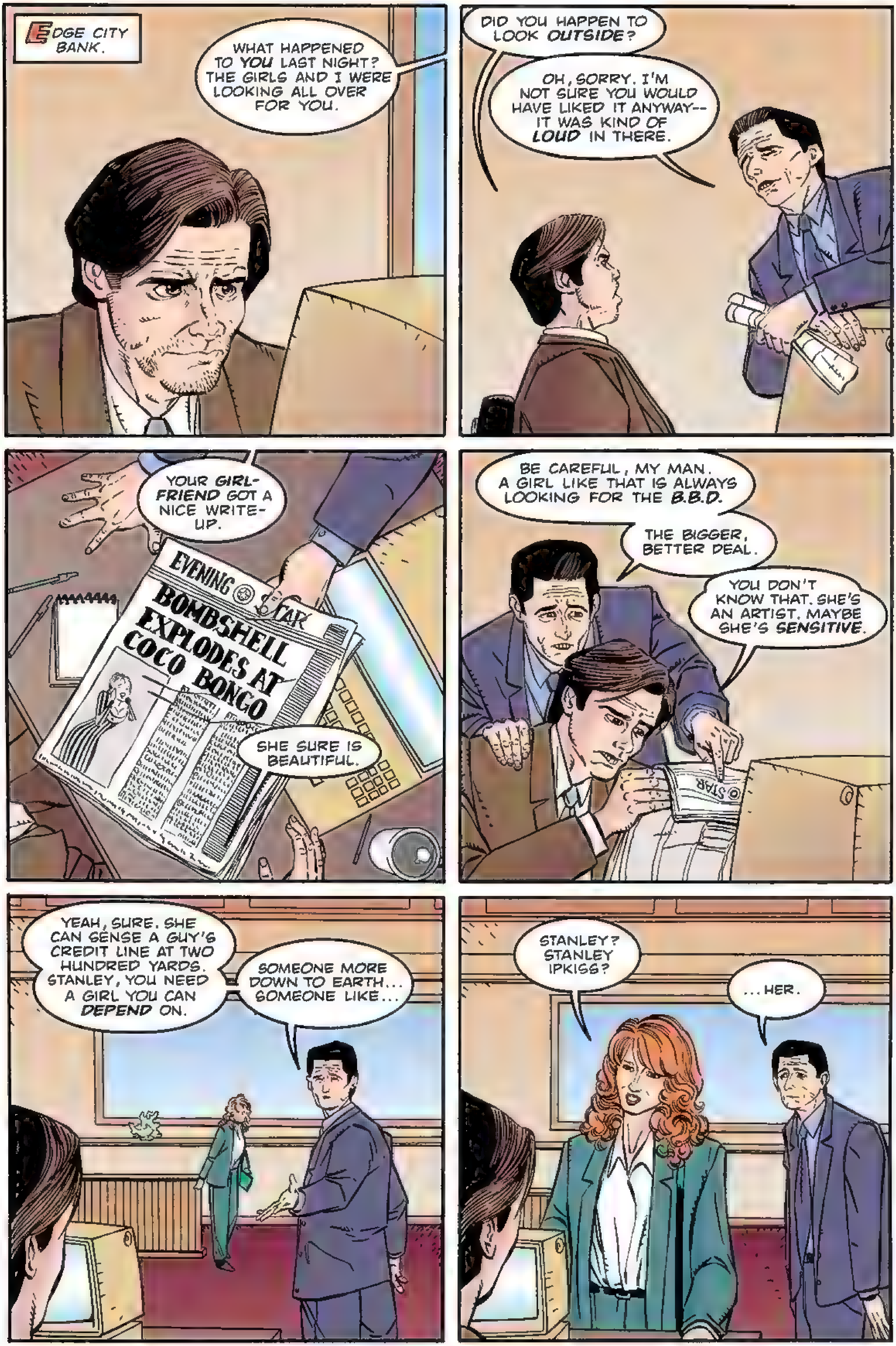

HAVE A NICE DAY.
HEY, MISTER.. ...YOU GOT THE TIME?
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DO, CUBBY.
WHY LOOK AT THAT! IT'S JUST TWO SECONDS BEFORE I HONK YOUR NOSE AND PULL YOUR UNDERWEAR OVER YOUR HEAD.
HONK
FWWRIIIIP
GET HIM!

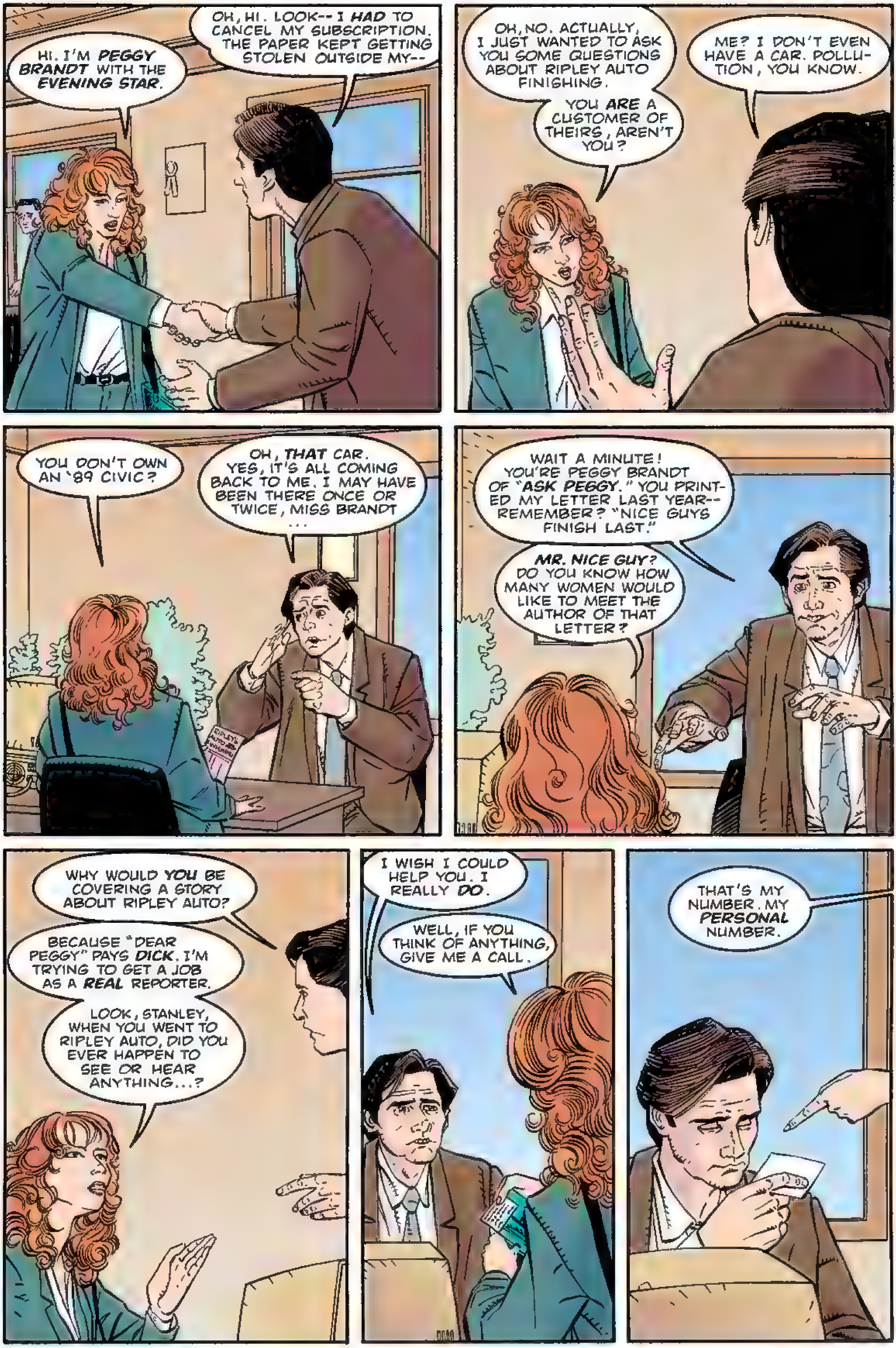

AND FOR MY NEXT TRICK...
SQUEAK
SQUEEK
SQUEEF
HERE YOU ARE, SON-- A GIRAFFE!
AND FOR YOU, A FRENCH POODLE!
SCREECH
POP
AND, FINALLY, MY FAVORITE ...
A TOMMY GUN!
RATATATATATATATA
THIS IS INCREDIBLE! WHY WITH THESE POWERS I COULD BE A SUPERHERO! I COULD FIGHT CRIME... WORK FOR WORLD PEACE...
BUT FIRST...

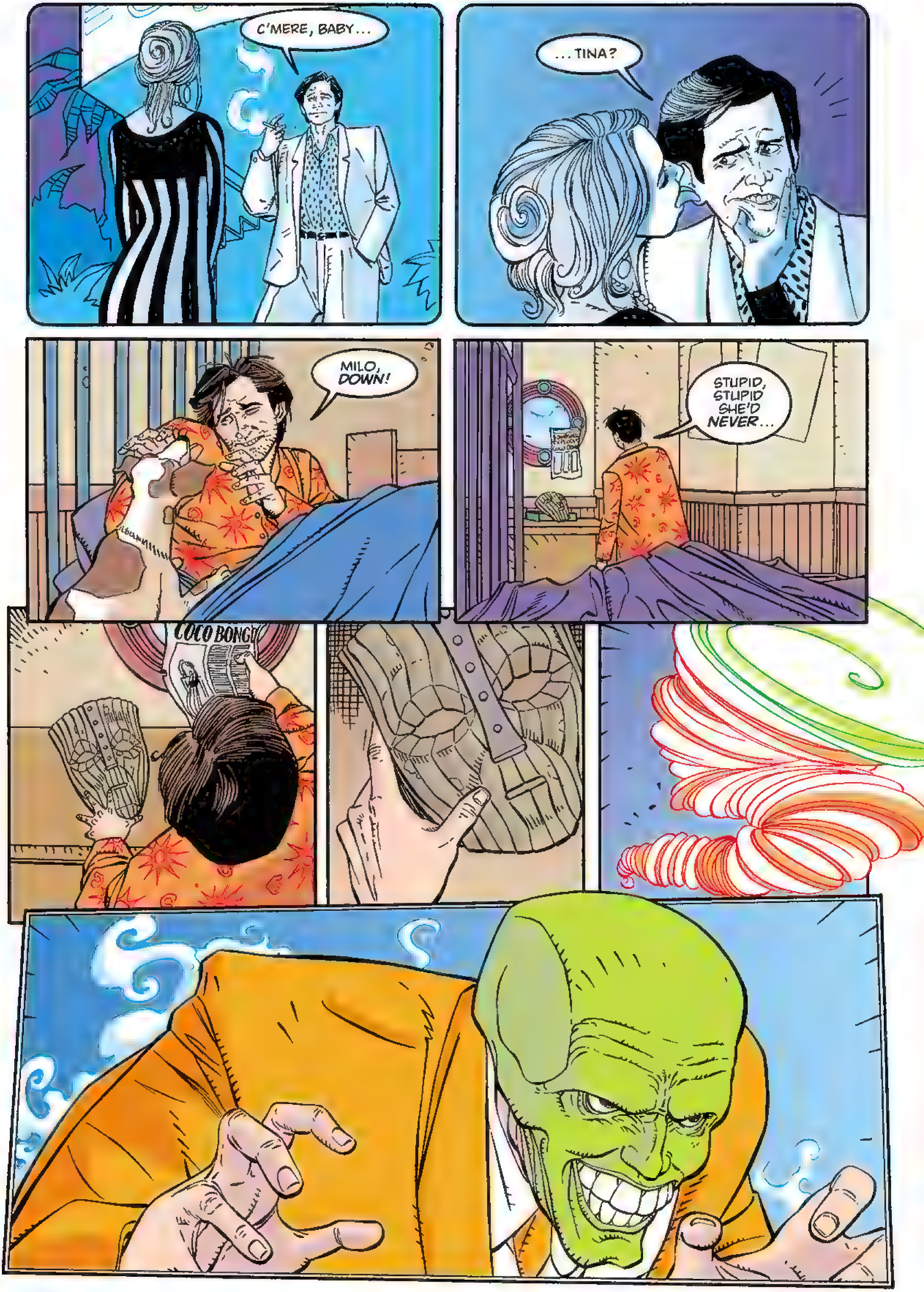

IRE
PAIR
NOW THESE ARE SERIOUS CHILI DOGS.
I KNOW. HERE'S THE PROOF-- ¡BUUUURP¡
YOU GOT NO CLASS.
HERE, PULL ON MY FINGER.
NO WAY!
KA-BOOM
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MISTER.
YOU TWO ARE ABOUT TO EXCEED COMMUNITY STANDARDS.
DON'T WORRY, THOUGH-- I'M HERE TO HELP YOU.
UH...¡GULP¡... WE'RE CLOSED...
YEAH, THERE'S NOBODY HERE.
THAT'S OKAY, BOYS.
NOW HOLD ONTO YOUR LUGNUTS, BECAUSE IT'S TIME FOR AN OVERHAUL!

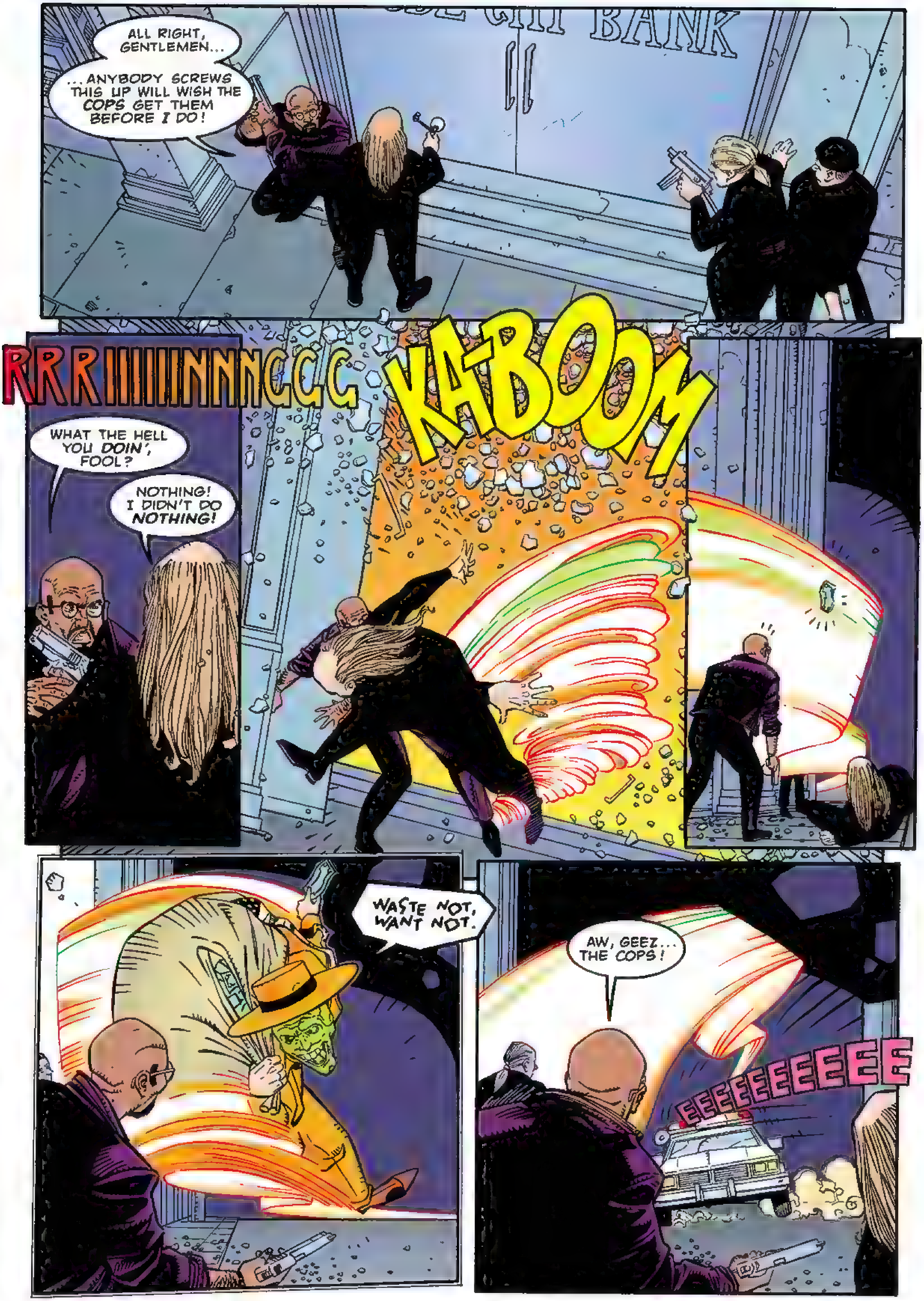

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK
WHAT A DREAM I GOTTA LAY OFF THE CARTOONS.
CAN I HELP YOU?
IPKISS? STANLEY IPKISS?
I'M LT. KELLAWAY-- CITY PRECINCT. YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE DISTURBANCE LAST NIGHT?
DISTURBANCE?
YEAH. SOME KIND OF PROWLER ATTACKED MRS. PEENMAN. SHE UNLOADED A COUPLE OF ROUNDS OF BUCKSHOT.
SHE SAYS HE HAD A BIG GREEN HEAD.
THIS IS... IMPOSSIBLE!
NO, THOSE PAJAMAS ARE IMPOSSIBLE. THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENED.
LIEUTENANT. WE GOT ANOTHER INCIDENT WITH THE BIG-HEADED GUY OVER AT RIPLEY AUTO. THEY SAID YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THIS ONE.
HERE. IF YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT LAST NIGHT--ANYTHING AT ALL--CALL ME.
ABSOLUTELY. I CERTAINLY WILL. THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK IN ALL YOUR ENDEAVORS...

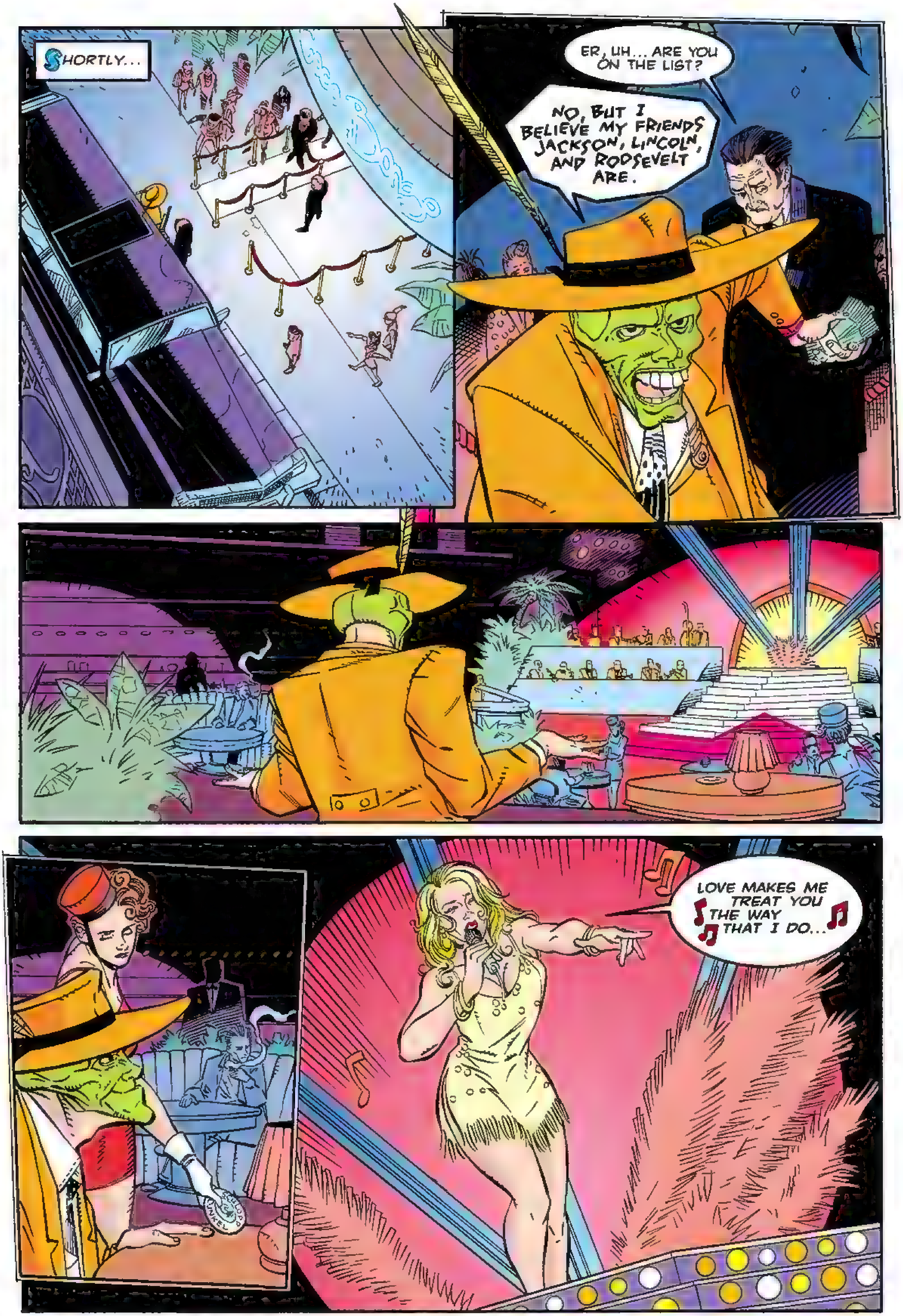

A SHORT TIME LATER, BACK AT RIPLEY AUTO REPAIR...
Ah! EEEEH! OOH!
I WANT A **PROCTOLOGIST** STANDING BY. YEAH, YOU HEARD ME! THE BEST ONE YOU CAN FIND.
EXCUSE ME, LIEUTENANT, I'M WITH THE **EVENING STAR**. CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
NO. AND YOU CAN **QUOTE** ME.
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF MOB TACTIC.
THERE IT IS, BOYS. SHE BROKE THE CASE.
C'MON. GET THESE RUBBERNECKS OUTTA HERE.
POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

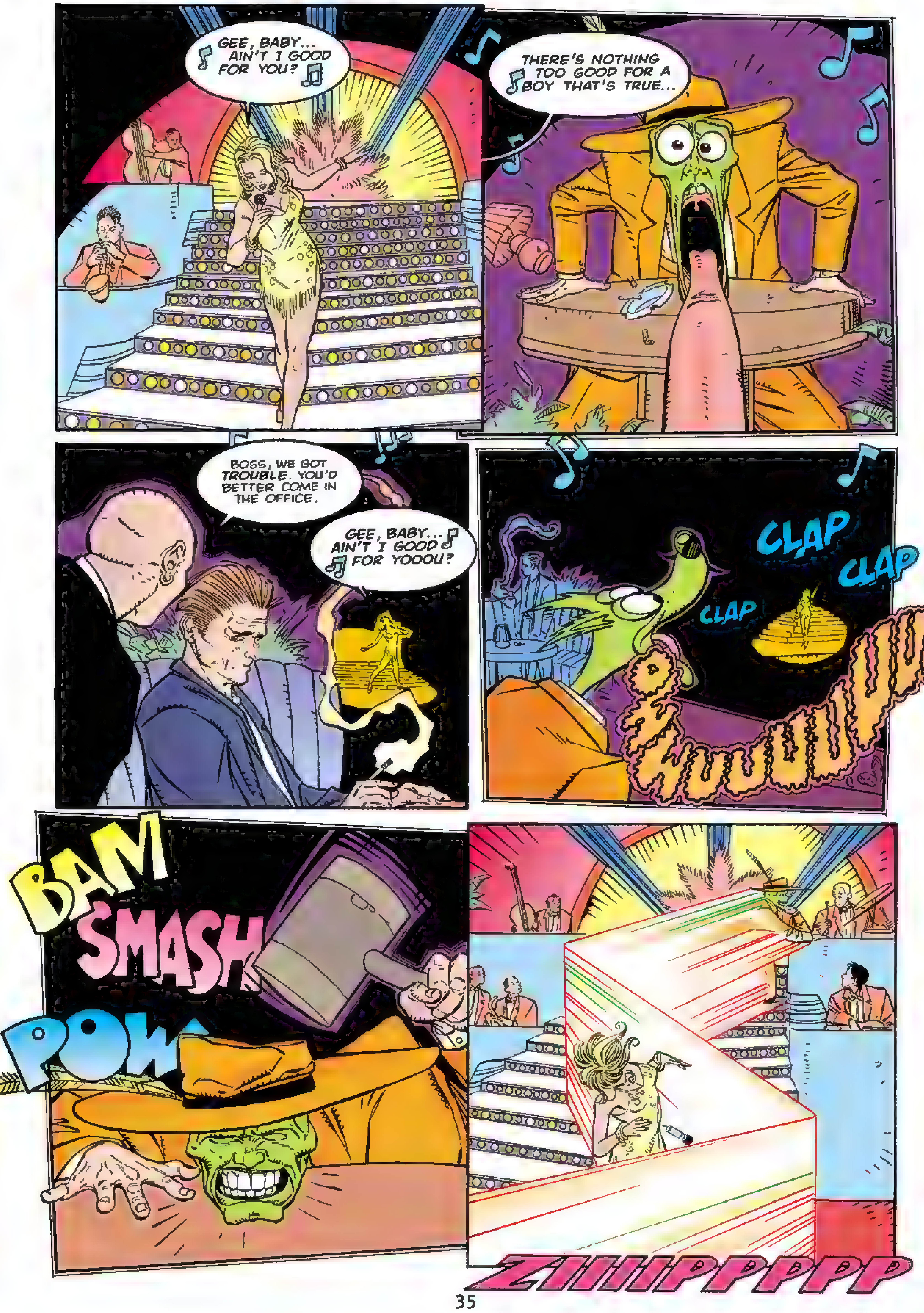

EDGE CITY BANK.
WHAT HAPPENED TO *YOU* LAST NIGHT? THE GIRLS AND I WERE LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU.
DID YOU HAPPEN TO LOOK *OUTSIDE*?
OH, SORRY. I'M NOT SURE YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED IT ANYWAY-- IT WAS KIND OF *LOUD* IN THERE.
YOUR *GIRL-FRIEND* GOT A NICE WRITE-UP.
EVENING STAR
BOMBSHELL EXPLODES AT COCO BONGO
SHE SURE IS BEAUTIFUL.
BE CAREFUL, MY MAN. A GIRL LIKE THAT IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR THE *B.B.D.*
THE BIGGER, BETTER DEAL.
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT. SHE'S AN ARTIST. MAYBE SHE'S *SENSITIVE*.
STAR
YEAH, SURE. SHE CAN SENSE A GUY'S CREDIT LINE AT TWO HUNDRED YARDS. STANLEY, YOU NEED A GIRL YOU CAN *DEPEND* ON.
SOMEONE MORE DOWN TO EARTH... SOMEONE LIKE...
STANLEY? STANLEY IPKISS?
...HER.

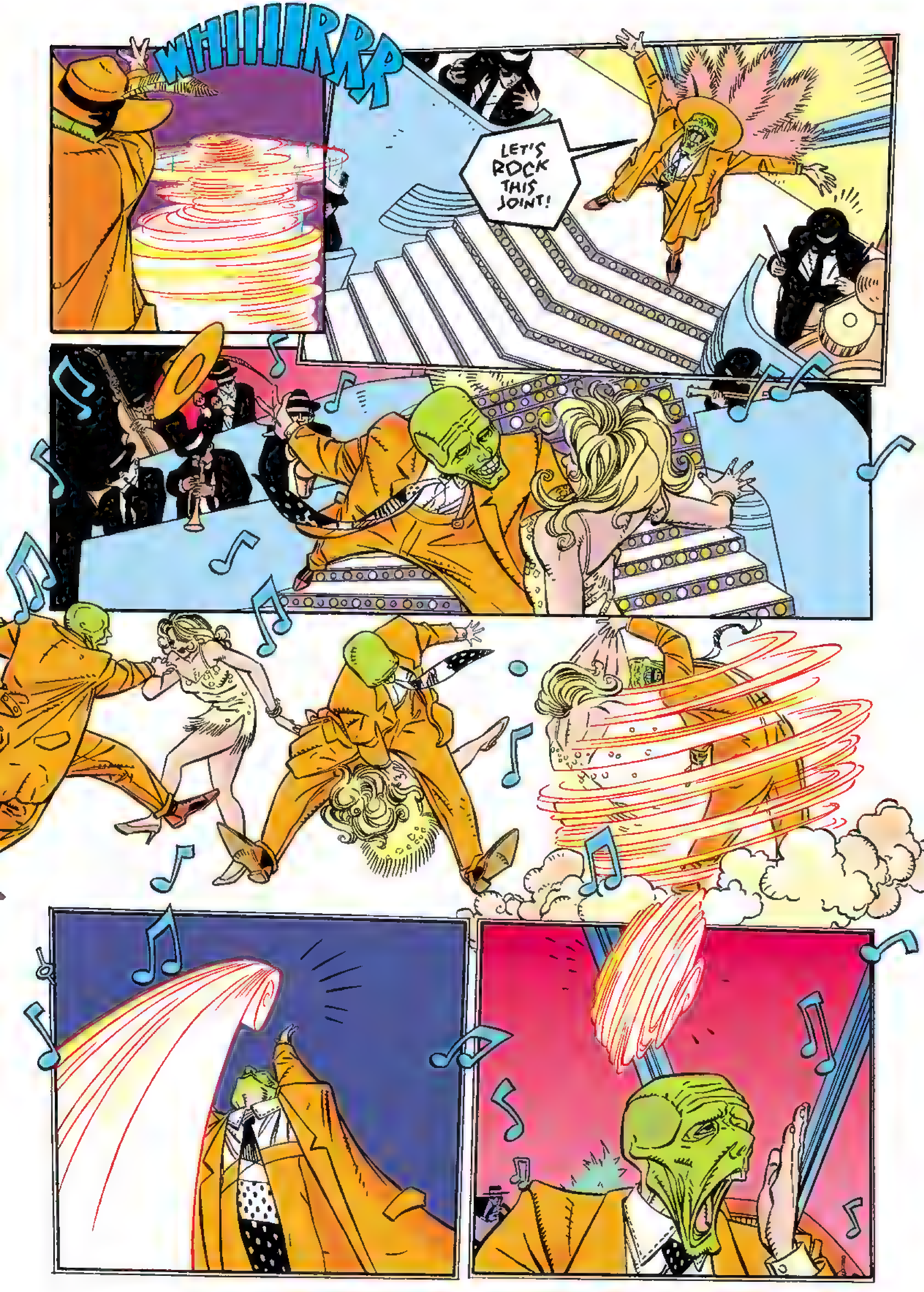

HI. I'M **PEGGY BRANDT** WITH THE **EVENING STAR**.
OH, HI. LOOK-- I **HAD** TO CANCEL MY SUBSCRIPTION. THE PAPER KEPT GETTING STOLEN OUTSIDE MY--
OH, NO. ACTUALLY, I JUST WANTED TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT RIPLEY AUTO FINISHING.
YOU **ARE** A CUSTOMER OF THEIRS, AREN'T YOU?
ME? I DON'T EVEN HAVE A CAR. POLLUTION, YOU KNOW.
YOU DON'T OWN AN '89 CIVIC?
OH, **THAT** CAR. YES, IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME. I MAY HAVE BEEN THERE ONCE OR TWICE, MISS BRANDT . . .
RIPLEY'S AUTO
WAIT A MINUTE! YOU'RE PEGGY BRANDT OF "**ASK PEGGY**." YOU PRINTED MY LETTER LAST YEAR-- REMEMBER? "NICE GUYS FINISH LAST."
MR. NICE GUY? DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY WOMEN WOULD LIKE TO MEET THE AUTHOR OF THAT LETTER?
WHY WOULD **YOU** BE COVERING A STORY ABOUT RIPLEY AUTO?
BECAUSE "DEAR PEGGY" PAYS **DICK**. I'M TRYING TO GET A JOB AS A **REAL** REPORTER.
LOOK, STANLEY, WHEN YOU WENT TO RIPLEY AUTO, DID YOU EVER HAPPEN TO SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING...?
I WISH I COULD HELP YOU. I REALLY **DO**.
WELL, IF YOU THINK OF ANYTHING, GIVE ME A CALL.
THAT'S MY NUMBER. MY **PERSONAL** NUMBER.

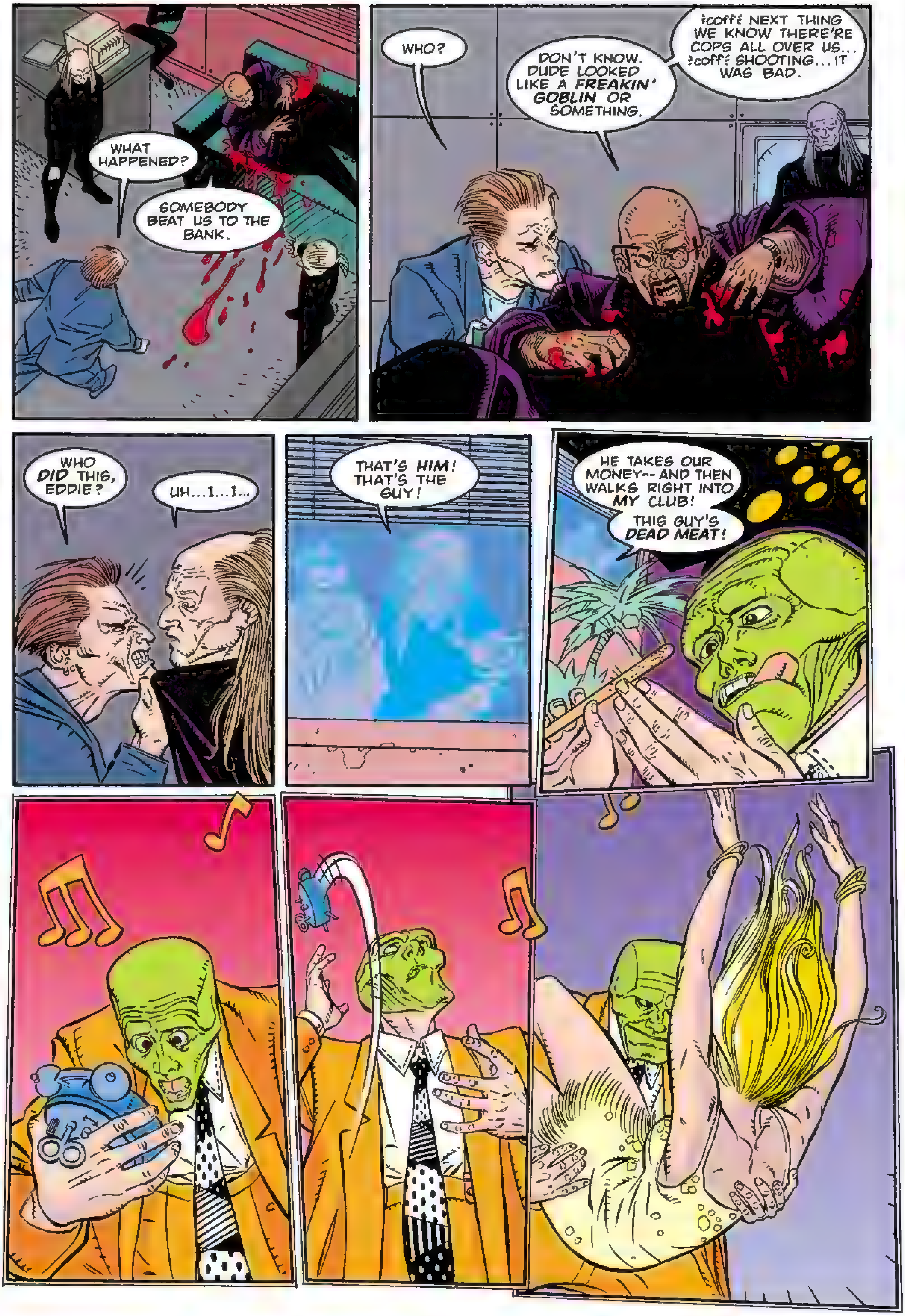

C'MERE, BABY...
...TINA?
MILO, DOWN!
STUPID, STUPID SHE'D NEVER...
COCO BONGO

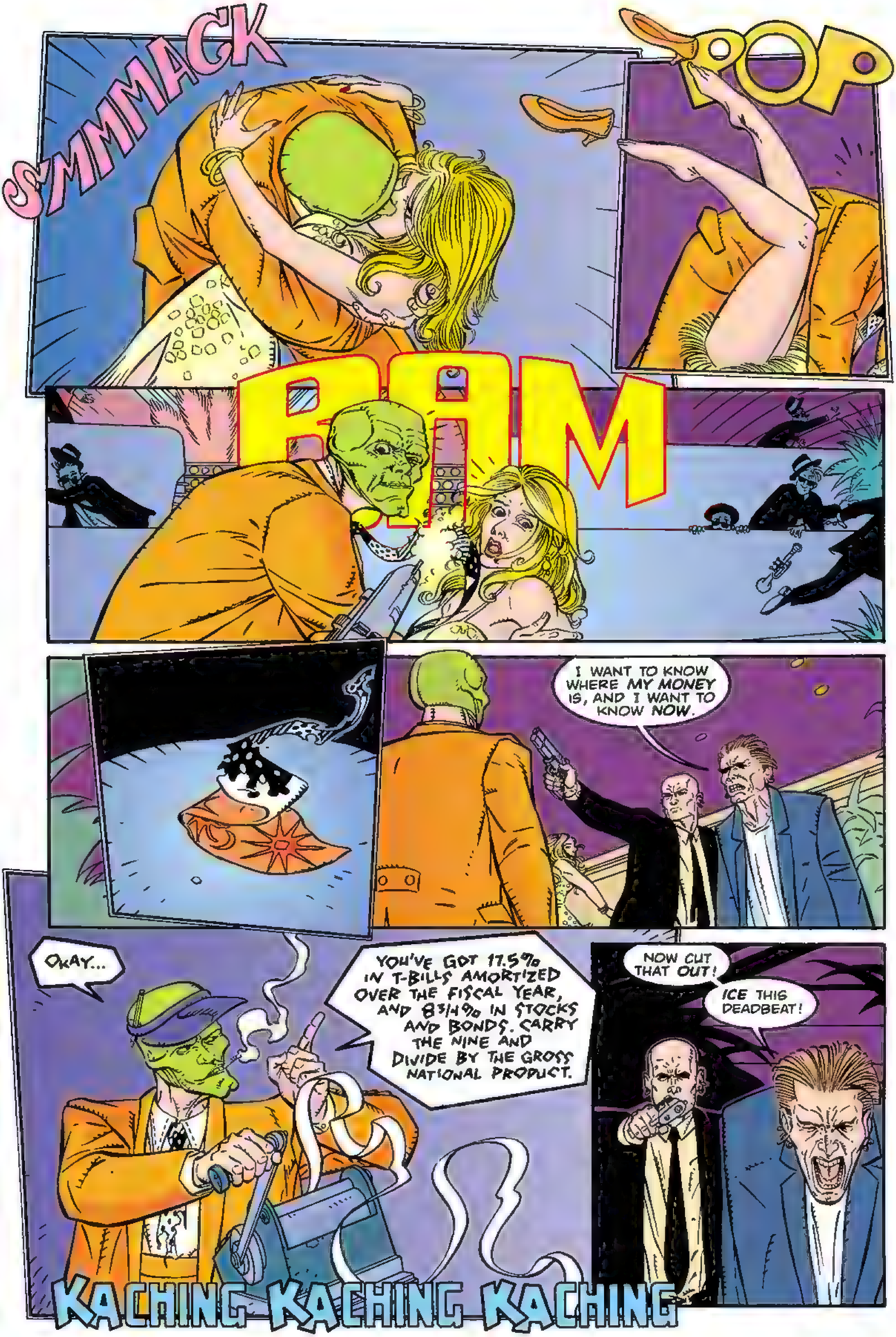

BANK
ALL RIGHT, GENTLEMEN...
...ANYBODY SCREWS THIS UP WILL WISH THE COPS GET THEM BEFORE I DO!
RRRIIIIIIINNNGGG
KA-BOOM
WHAT THE HELL YOU DOIN', FOOL?
NOTHING! I DIDN'T DO NOTHING!
WASTE NOT, WANT NOT.
AW, GEEZ... THE COPS!
EEEEEEEEEEEE

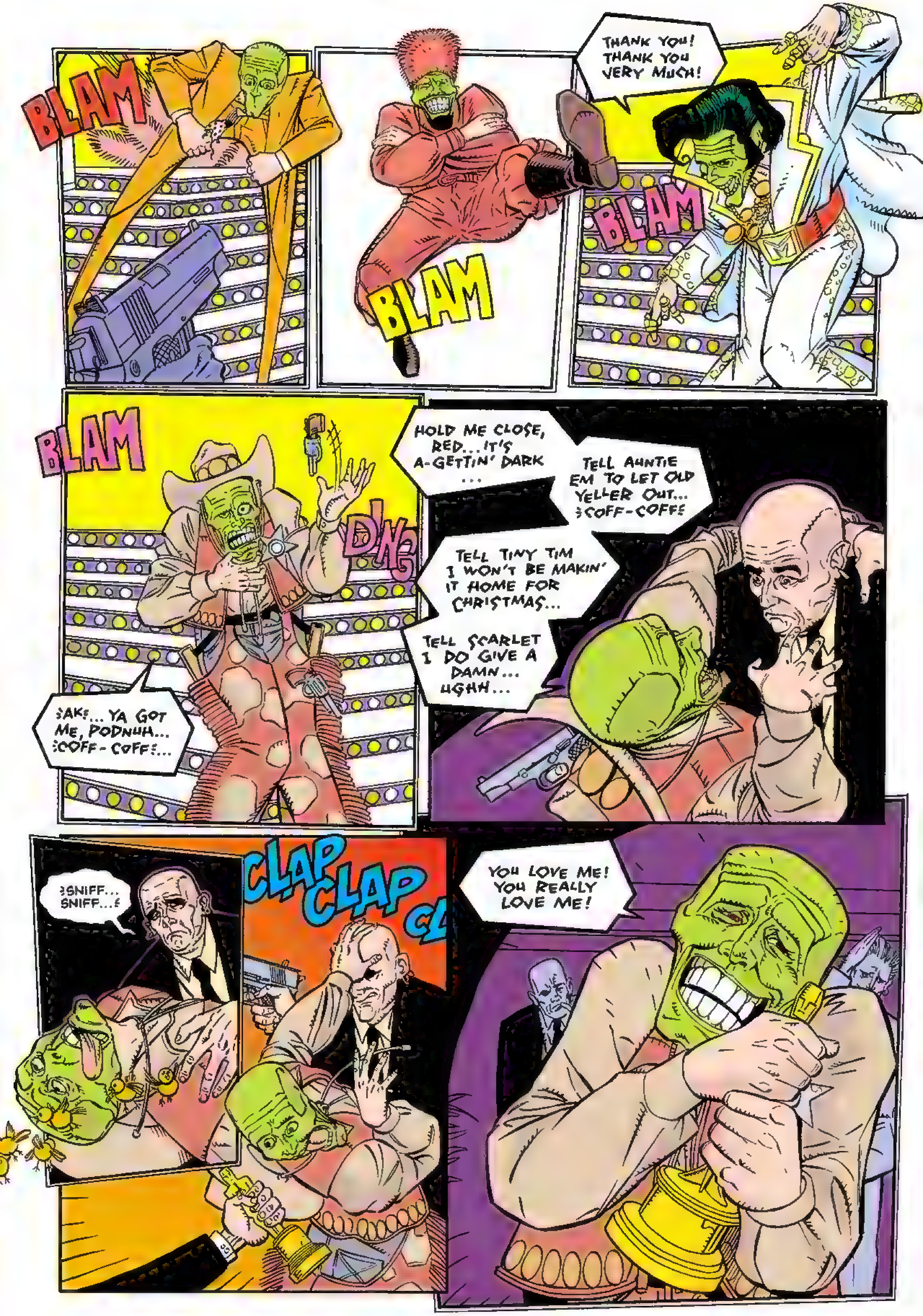

SHORTLY...
ER, UH... ARE YOU ON THE LIST?
NO, BUT I BELIEVE MY FRIENDS JACKSON, LINCOLN, AND ROOSEVELT ARE.
LOVE MAKES ME TREAT YOU THE WAY THAT I DO...

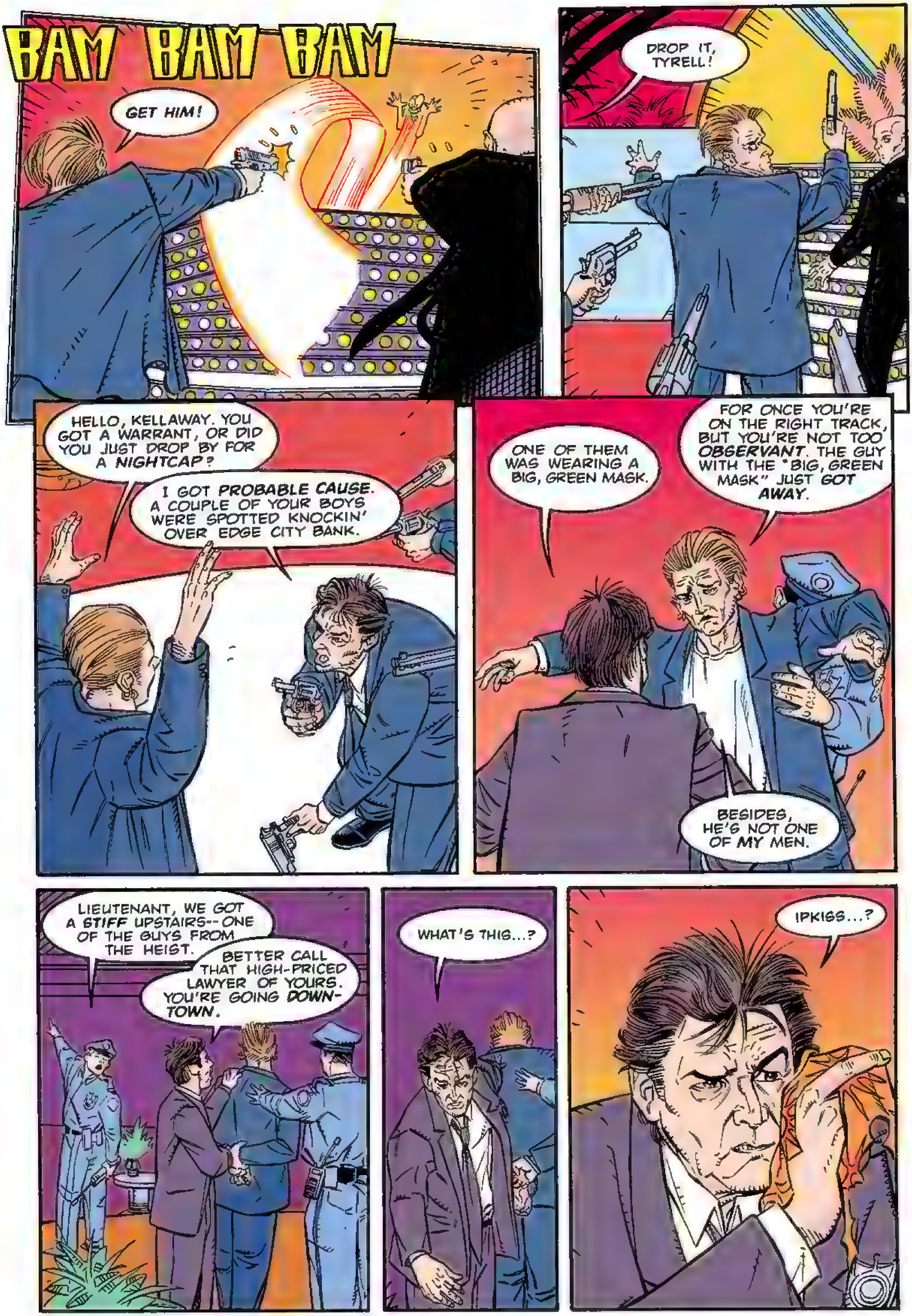

GEE, BABY... AIN'T I GOOD FOR YOU?
THERE'S NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR A BOY THAT'S TRUE...
BOSS, WE GOT TROUBLE. YOU'D BETTER COME IN THE OFFICE.
GEE, BABY... AIN'T I GOOD FOR YOOOU?
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
AAWUUUUUU
BAM
SMASH
POW
ZIIIIPPPPPP

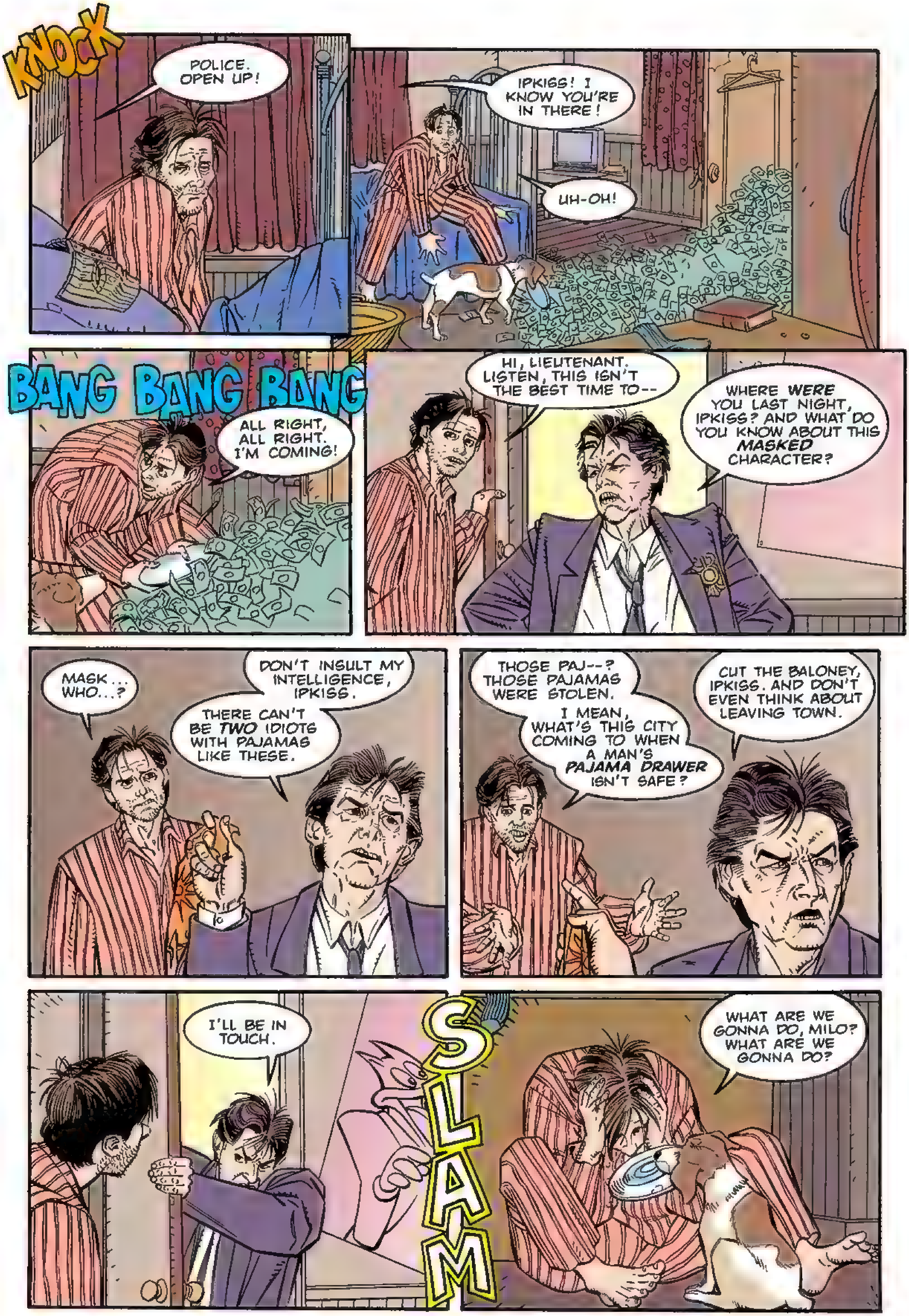

WHIIIIRRRR
LET'S ROCK THIS JOINT!

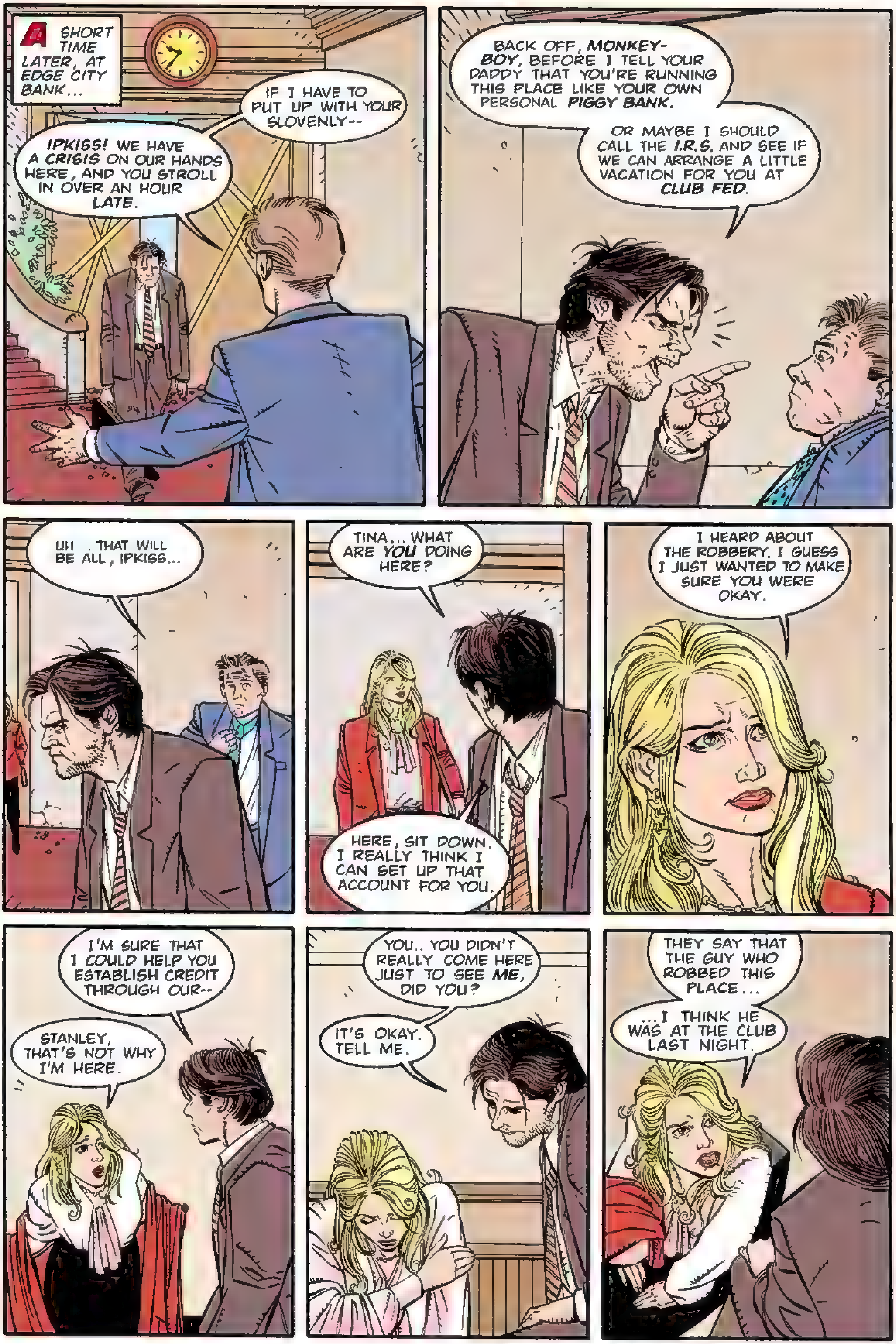

WHAT HAPPENED?
SOMEBODY BEAT US TO THE BANK.
WHO?
DON'T KNOW. DUDE LOOKED LIKE A *FREAKIN'* *GOBLIN* OR SOMETHING.
¿coff¿ NEXT THING WE KNOW THERE'RE COPS ALL OVER US... ¿coff¿ SHOOTING... IT WAS BAD.
WHO *DID* THIS, EDDIE?
UH...I...I...
THAT'S *HIM*! THAT'S THE GUY!
HE TAKES OUR MONEY-- AND THEN WALKS RIGHT INTO *MY* CLUB!
THIS GUY'S *DEAD MEAT*!

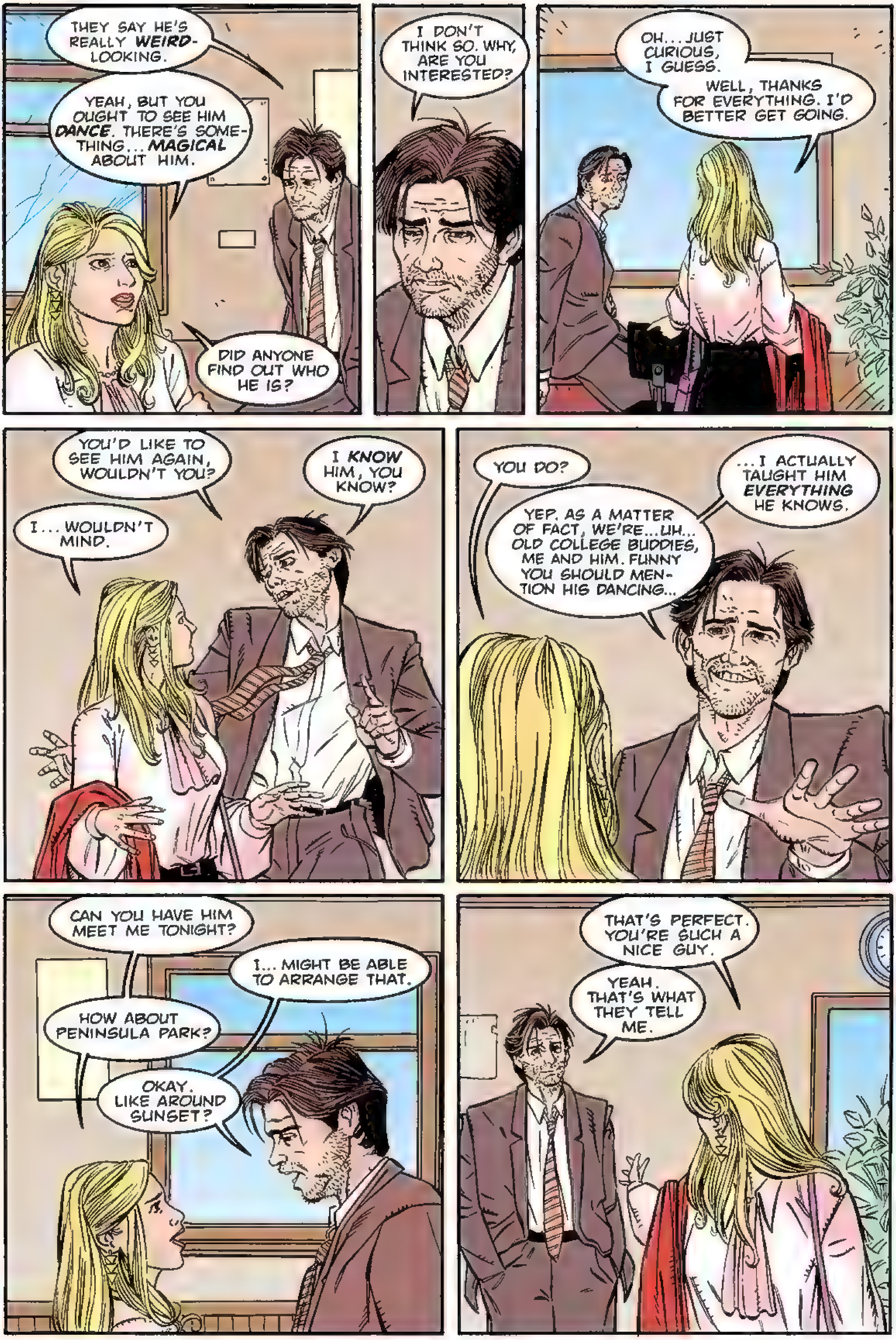

SMMMACK
POP
BAM
I WANT TO KNOW WHERE MY MONEY IS, AND I WANT TO KNOW NOW.
OKAY...
YOU'VE GOT 17.5% IN T-BILLS AMORTIZED OVER THE FISCAL YEAR, AND 8 3/4% IN STOCKS AND BONDS. CARRY THE NINE AND DIVIDE BY THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT.
NOW CUT THAT OUT!
ICE THIS DEADBEAT!
KACHING KACHING KACHING

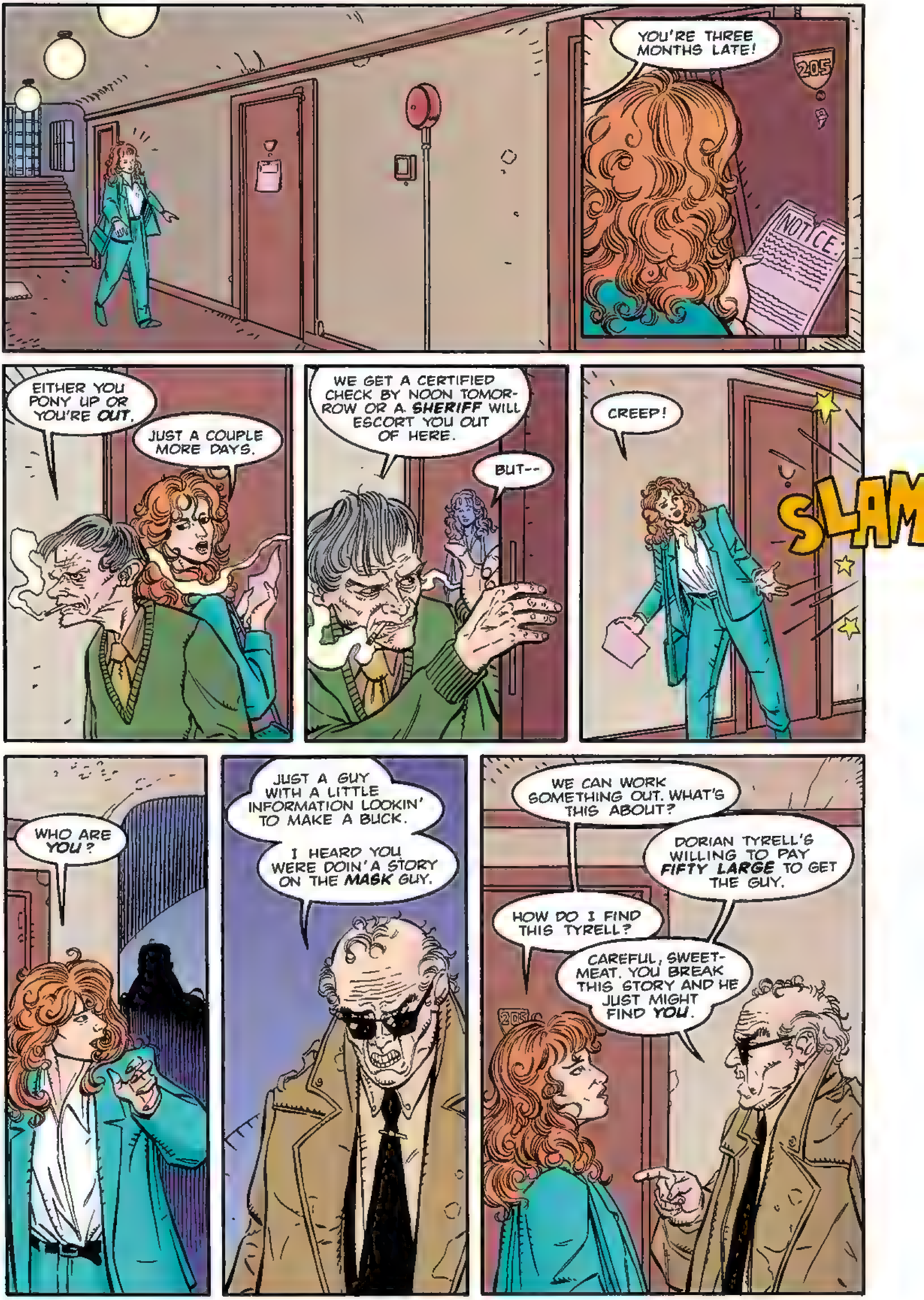

BLAM
BLAM
THANK YOU! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
BLAM
BLAM
DING
:AK:... YA GOT ME, PODNUH... :COFF-COFF:...
HOLD ME CLOSE, RED... IT'S A-GETTIN' DARK...
TELL AUNTIE EM TO LET OLD YELLER OUT... :COFF-COFF:
TELL TINY TIM I WON'T BE MAKIN' IT HOME FOR CHRISTMAS...
TELL SCARLET I DO GIVE A DAMN... UGHH...
:SNIFF... SNIFF...:
CLAP CLAP CL
YOU LOVE ME! YOU REALLY LOVE ME!

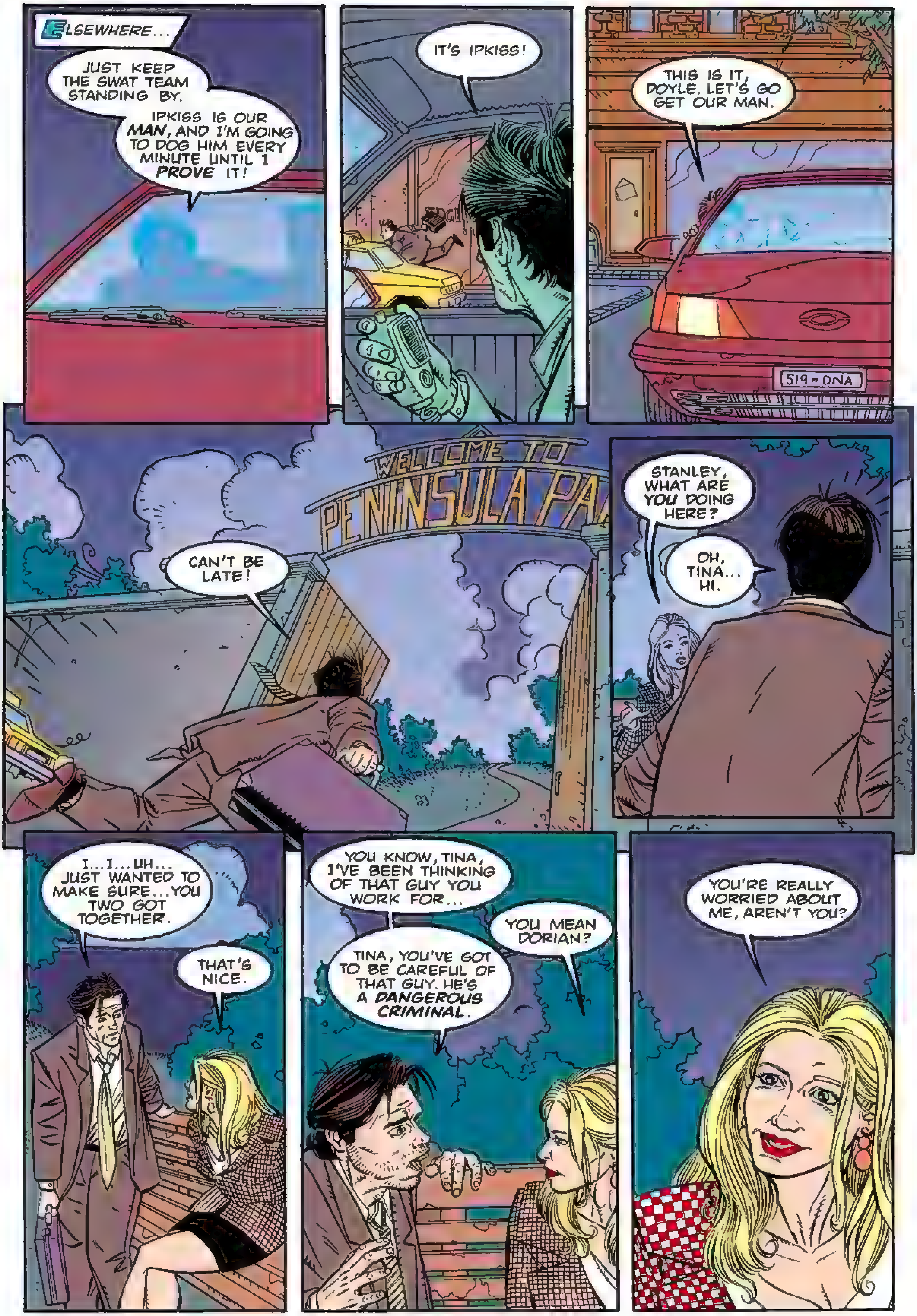

BAM BAM BAM
GET HIM!
DROP IT, TYRELL!
HELLO, KELLAWAY. YOU GOT A WARRANT, OR DID YOU JUST DROP BY FOR A NIGHTCAP?
I GOT PROBABLE CAUSE. A COUPLE OF YOUR BOYS WERE SPOTTED KNOCKIN' OVER EDGE CITY BANK.
ONE OF THEM WAS WEARING A BIG, GREEN MASK.
FOR ONCE YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, BUT YOU'RE NOT TOO OBSERVANT. THE GUY WITH THE "BIG, GREEN MASK" JUST GOT AWAY.
BESIDES, HE'S NOT ONE OF MY MEN.
LIEUTENANT, WE GOT A STIFF UPSTAIRS--ONE OF THE GUYS FROM THE HEIST.
BETTER CALL THAT HIGH-PRICED LAWYER OF YOURS. YOU'RE GOING DOWNTOWN.
WHAT'S THIS...?
IPKISS...?

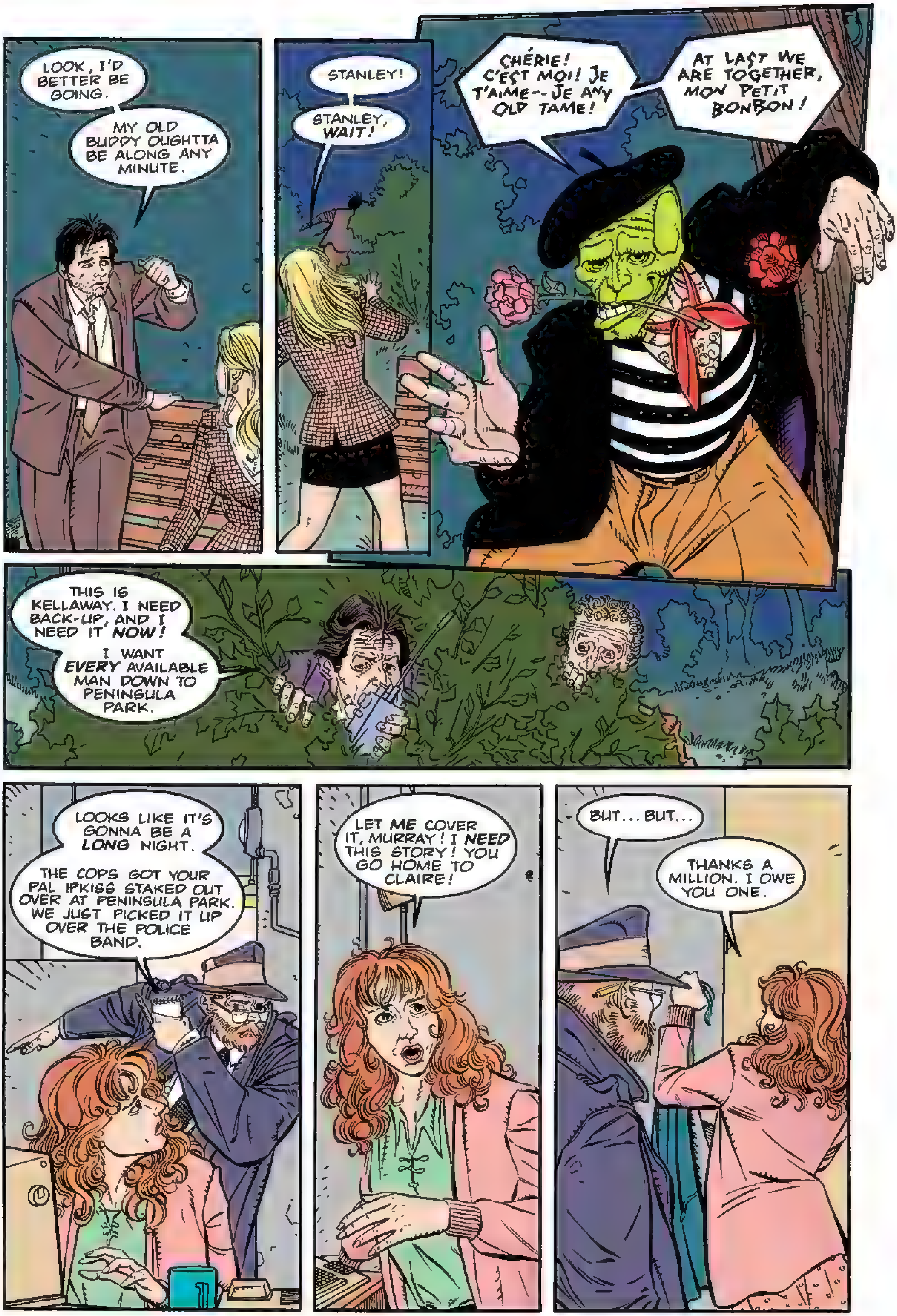

KNOCK
POLICE. OPEN UP!
IPKISS! I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!
UH-OH!
BANG BANG BANG
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. I'M COMING!
HI, LIEUTENANT. LISTEN, THIS ISN'T THE BEST TIME TO--
WHERE *WERE* YOU LAST NIGHT, IPKISS? AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS *MASKED* CHARACTER?
MASK... WHO...?
DON'T INSULT MY INTELLIGENCE, IPKISS.
THERE CAN'T BE *TWO* IDIOTS WITH PAJAMAS LIKE THESE.
THOSE PAJ--? THOSE PAJAMAS WERE STOLEN.
I MEAN, WHAT'S THIS CITY COMING TO WHEN A MAN'S *PAJAMA DRAWER* ISN'T SAFE?
CUT THE BALONEY, IPKISS. AND DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT LEAVING TOWN.
I'LL BE IN TOUCH.
SLAM
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, MILO? WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?

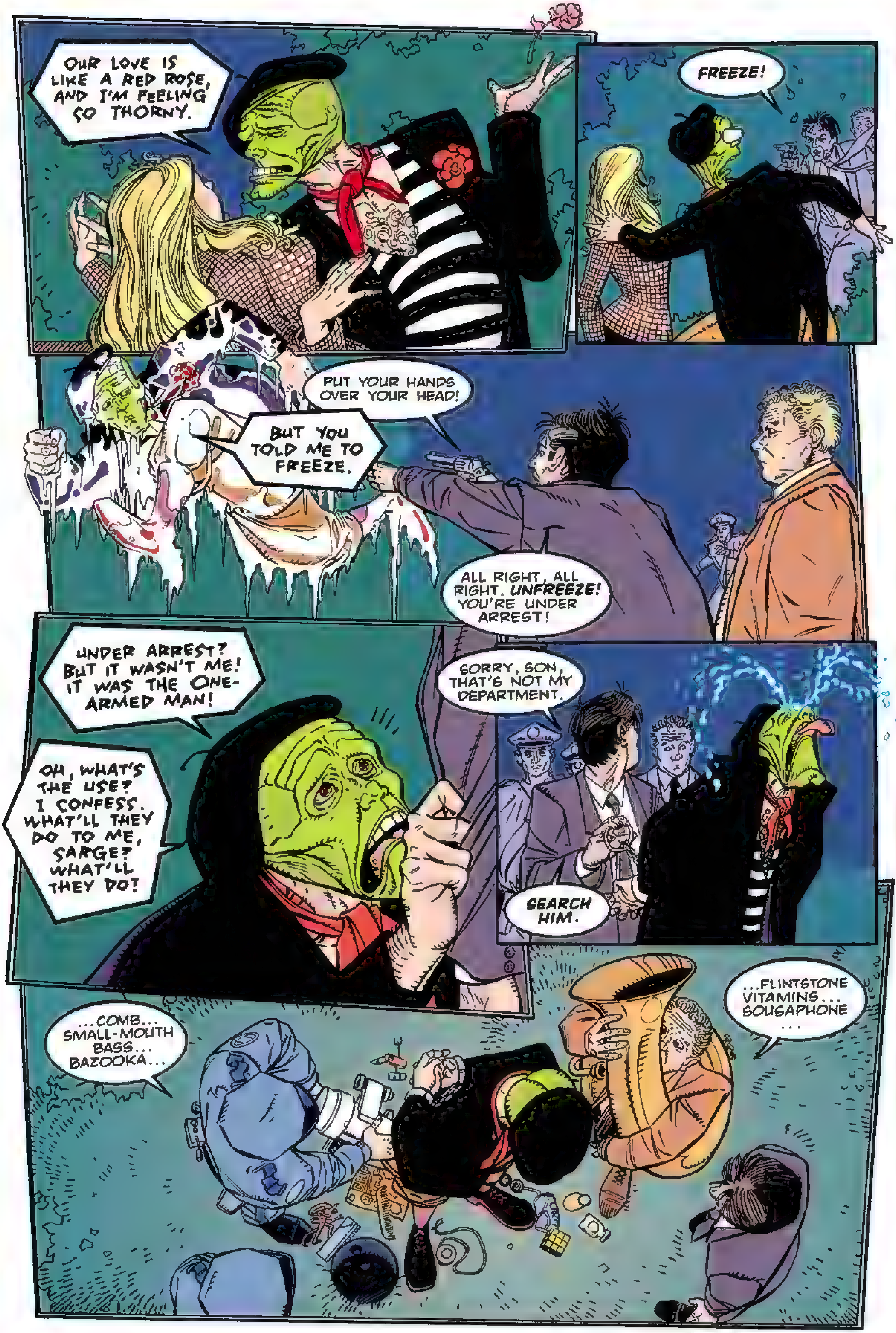

A SHORT TIME LATER, AT EDGE CITY BANK...
IPKISS! WE HAVE A CRISIS ON OUR HANDS HERE, AND YOU STROLL IN OVER AN HOUR LATE.
IF I HAVE TO PUT UP WITH YOUR SLOVENLY--
BACK OFF, MONKEY-BOY, BEFORE I TELL YOUR DADDY THAT YOU'RE RUNNING THIS PLACE LIKE YOUR OWN PERSONAL PIGGY BANK.
OR MAYBE I SHOULD CALL THE I.R.S. AND SEE IF WE CAN ARRANGE A LITTLE VACATION FOR YOU AT CLUB FED.
UH... THAT WILL BE ALL, IPKISS...
TINA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HERE, SIT DOWN. I REALLY THINK I CAN SET UP THAT ACCOUNT FOR YOU.
I HEARD ABOUT THE ROBBERY. I GUESS I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE OKAY.
I'M SURE THAT I COULD HELP YOU ESTABLISH CREDIT THROUGH OUR--
STANLEY, THAT'S NOT WHY I'M HERE.
YOU.. YOU DIDN'T REALLY COME HERE JUST TO SEE ME, DID YOU?
IT'S OKAY. TELL ME.
THEY SAY THAT THE GUY WHO ROBBED THIS PLACE...
...I THINK HE WAS AT THE CLUB LAST NIGHT.

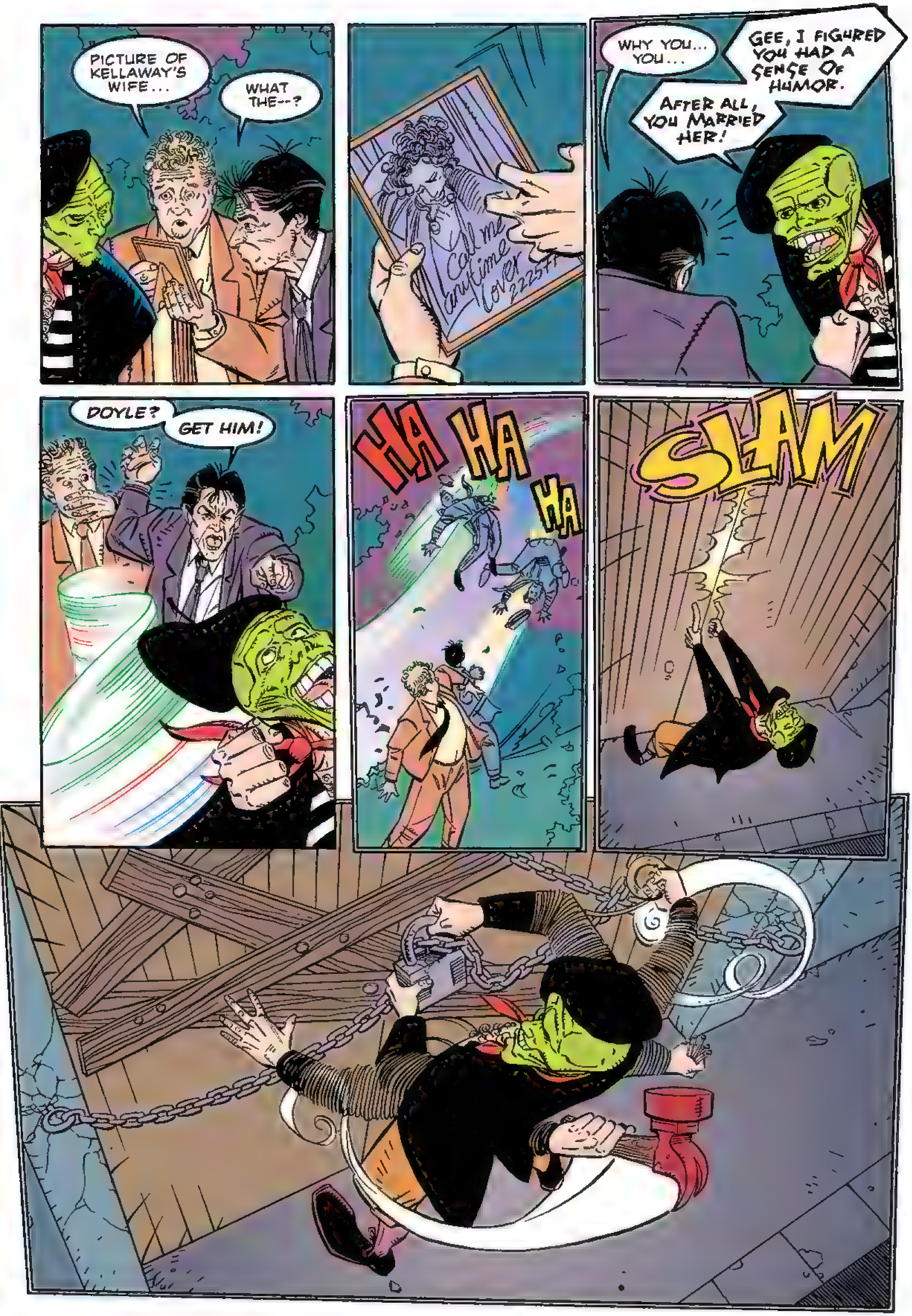

THEY SAY HE'S REALLY **WEIRD**-LOOKING.
YEAH, BUT YOU OUGHT TO SEE HIM **DANCE**. THERE'S SOMETHING... **MAGICAL** ABOUT HIM.
DID ANYONE FIND OUT WHO HE IS?
I DON'T THINK SO. WHY, ARE YOU INTERESTED?
OH... JUST CURIOUS, I GUESS.
WELL, THANKS FOR EVERYTHING. I'D BETTER GET GOING.
YOU'D LIKE TO SEE HIM AGAIN, WOULDN'T YOU?
I... WOULDN'T MIND.
I **KNOW** HIM, YOU KNOW?
YOU DO?
YEP. AS A MATTER OF FACT, WE'RE...UH... OLD COLLEGE BUDDIES, ME AND HIM. FUNNY YOU SHOULD MENTION HIS DANCING...
...I ACTUALLY TAUGHT HIM **EVERYTHING** HE KNOWS.
CAN YOU HAVE HIM MEET ME TONIGHT?
I... MIGHT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE THAT.
HOW ABOUT PENINSULA PARK?
OKAY. LIKE AROUND SUNSET?
THAT'S PERFECT. YOU'RE SUCH A NICE GUY.
YEAH. THAT'S WHAT THEY TELL ME.

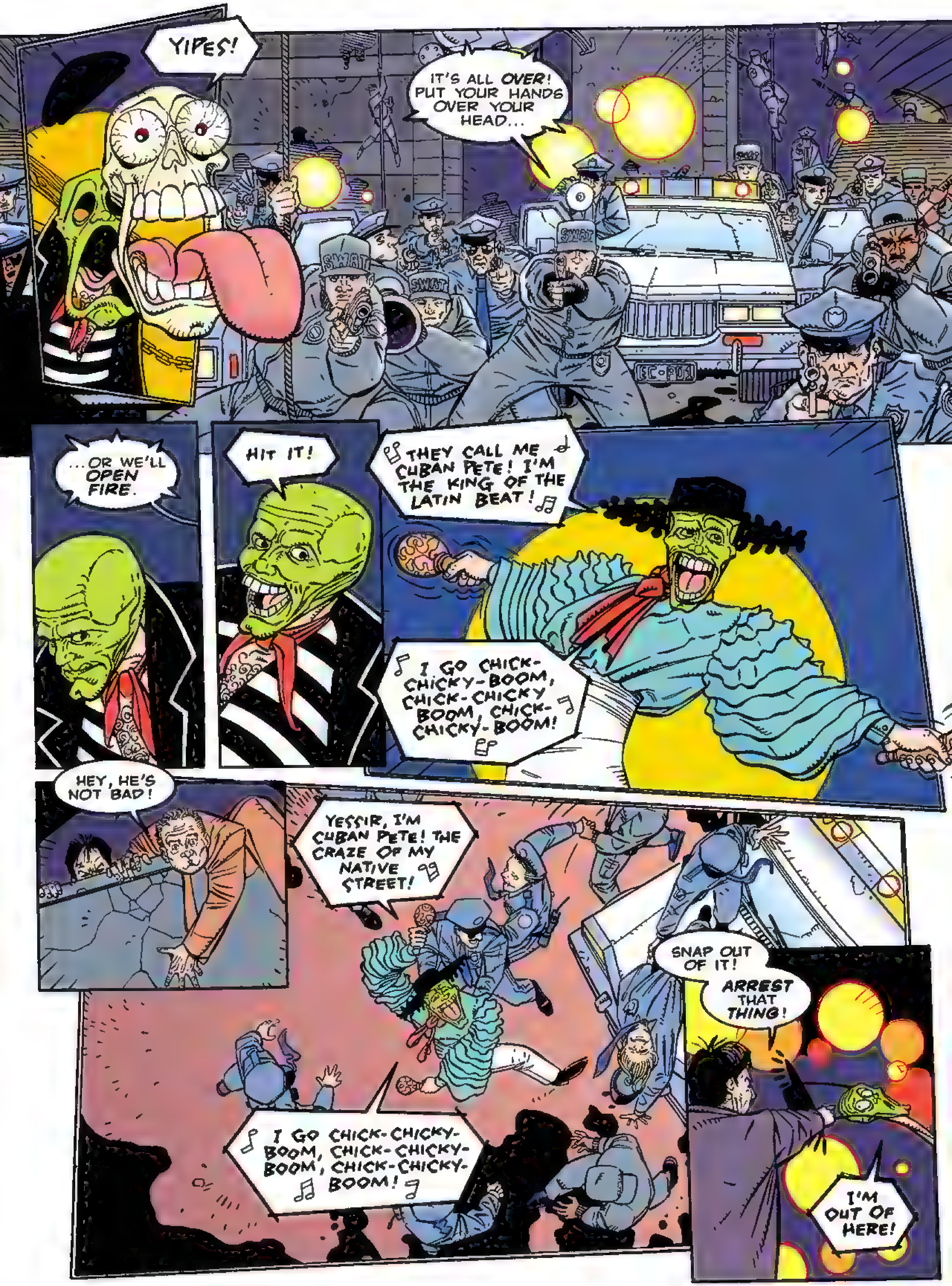

YOU'RE THREE MONTHS LATE!
205
NOTICE
EITHER YOU PONY UP OR YOU'RE *OUT*.
JUST A COUPLE MORE DAYS.
WE GET A CERTIFIED CHECK BY NOON TOMORROW OR A *SHERIFF* WILL ESCORT YOU OUT OF HERE.
BUT--
CREEP!
SLAM
WHO ARE *YOU*?
JUST A GUY WITH A LITTLE INFORMATION LOOKIN' TO MAKE A BUCK.
I HEARD YOU WERE DOIN' A STORY ON THE *MASK* GUY.
WE CAN WORK SOMETHING OUT. WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
DORIAN TYRELL'S WILLING TO PAY *FIFTY LARGE* TO GET THE GUY.
HOW DO I FIND THIS TYRELL?
CAREFUL, SWEETMEAT. YOU BREAK THIS STORY AND HE JUST MIGHT FIND *YOU*.
205

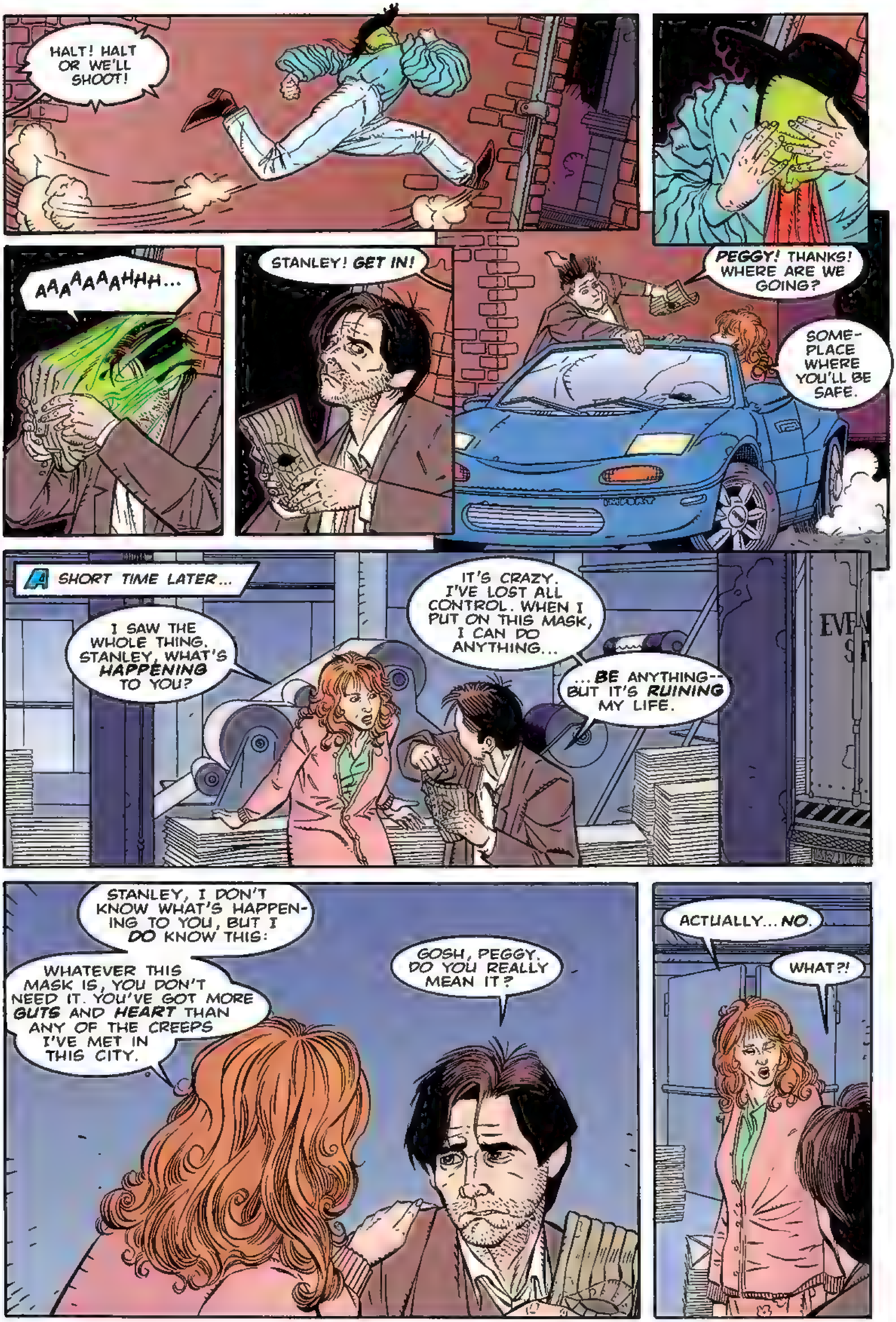

ELSEWHERE...
JUST KEEP THE SWAT TEAM STANDING BY.
IPKISS IS OUR MAN, AND I'M GOING TO DOG HIM EVERY MINUTE UNTIL I PROVE IT!
IT'S IPKISS!
THIS IS IT, DOYLE. LET'S GO GET OUR MAN.
519 - DNA
WELCOME TO PENINSULA PA
CAN'T BE LATE!
STANLEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OH, TINA... HI.
I...I...UH... JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE...YOU TWO GOT TOGETHER.
THAT'S NICE.
YOU KNOW, TINA, I'VE BEEN THINKING OF THAT GUY YOU WORK FOR...
YOU MEAN DORIAN?
TINA, YOU'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL OF THAT GUY. HE'S A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL.
YOU'RE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT ME, AREN'T YOU?

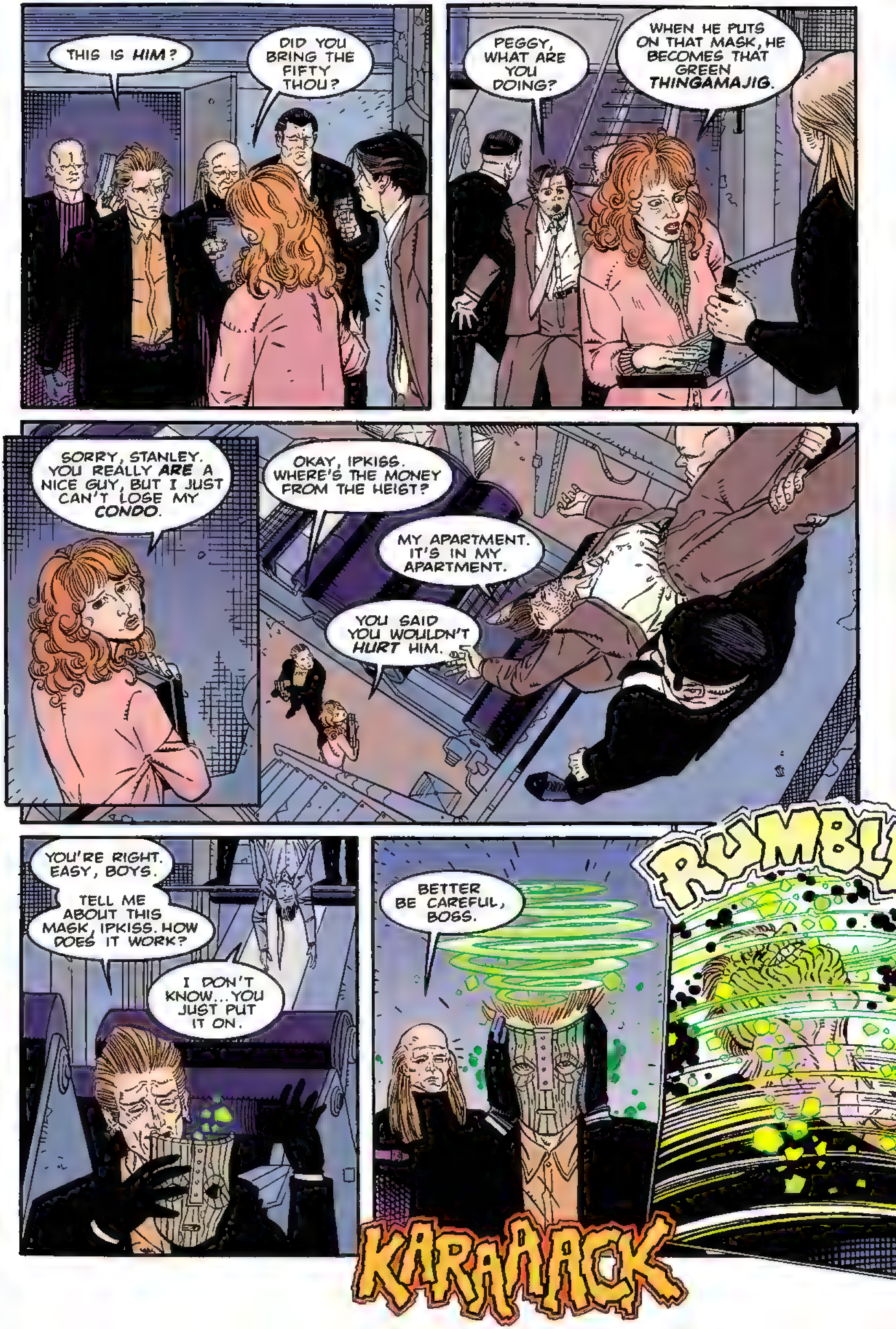

LOOK, I'D BETTER BE GOING.
MY OLD BUDDY OUGHTTA BE ALONG ANY MINUTE.
STANLEY!
STANLEY, WAIT!
CHÉRIE! C'EST MOI! JE T'AIME--JE ANY OLD TAME!
AT LAST WE ARE TOGETHER, MON PETIT BONBON!
THIS IS KELLAWAY. I NEED BACK-UP, AND I NEED IT NOW!
I WANT EVERY AVAILABLE MAN DOWN TO PENINSULA PARK.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONNA BE A LONG NIGHT.
THE COPS GOT YOUR PAL IPKISS STAKED OUT OVER AT PENINSULA PARK. WE JUST PICKED IT UP OVER THE POLICE BAND.
LET ME COVER IT, MURRAY! I NEED THIS STORY! YOU GO HOME TO CLAIRE!
BUT... BUT...
THANKS A MILLION. I OWE YOU ONE.

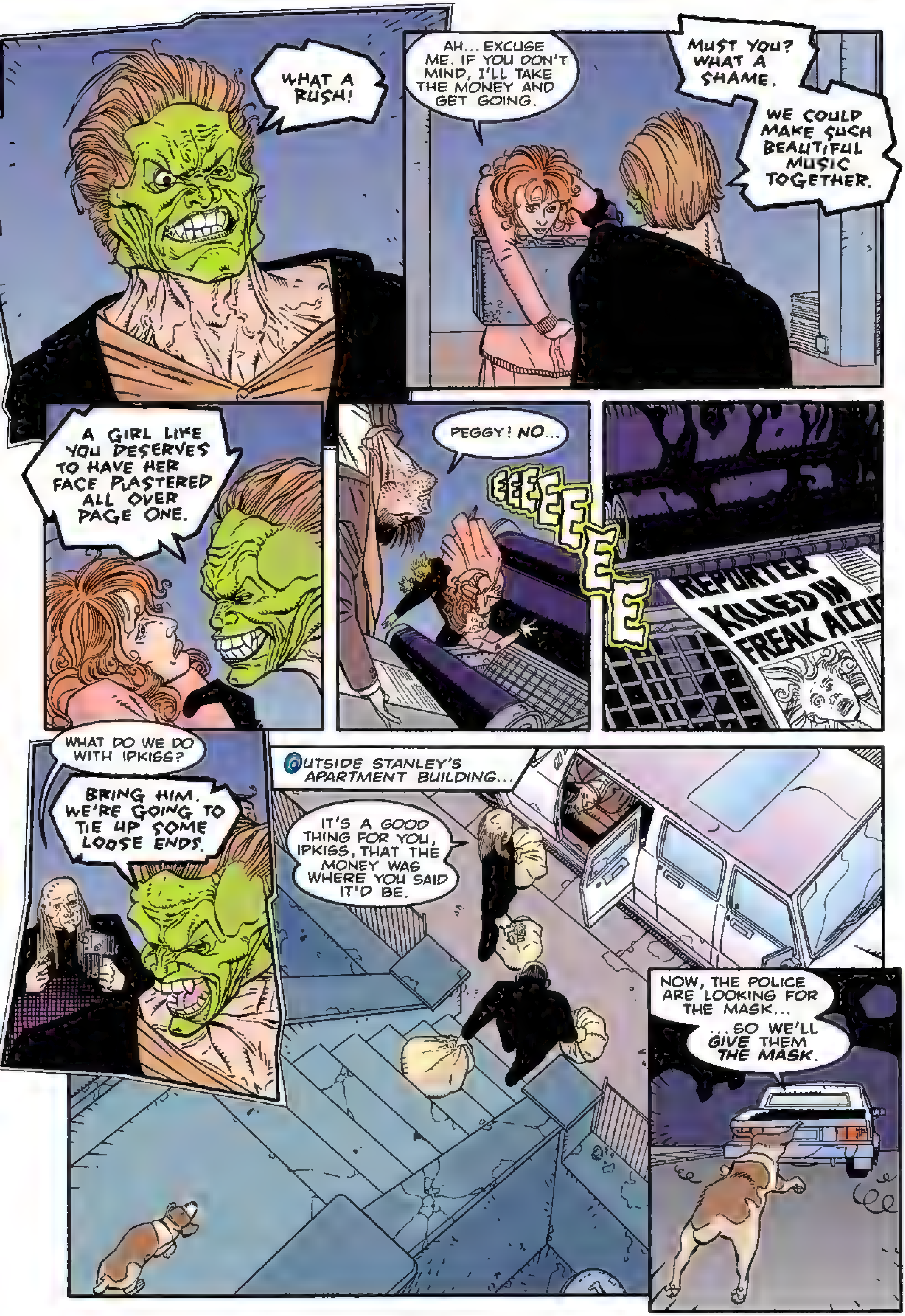

OUR LOVE IS LIKE A RED ROSE, AND I'M FEELING SO THORNY.
FREEZE!
PUT YOUR HANDS OVER YOUR HEAD!
BUT YOU TOLD ME TO FREEZE.
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. UNFREEZE! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
UNDER ARREST? BUT IT WASN'T ME! IT WAS THE ONE-ARMED MAN!
OH, WHAT'S THE USE? I CONFESS. WHAT'LL THEY DO TO ME, SARGE? WHAT'LL THEY DO?
SORRY, SON, THAT'S NOT MY DEPARTMENT.
SEARCH HIM.
...COMB... SMALL-MOUTH BASS... BAZOOKA...
...FLINTSTONE VITAMINS... SOUSAPHONE ...

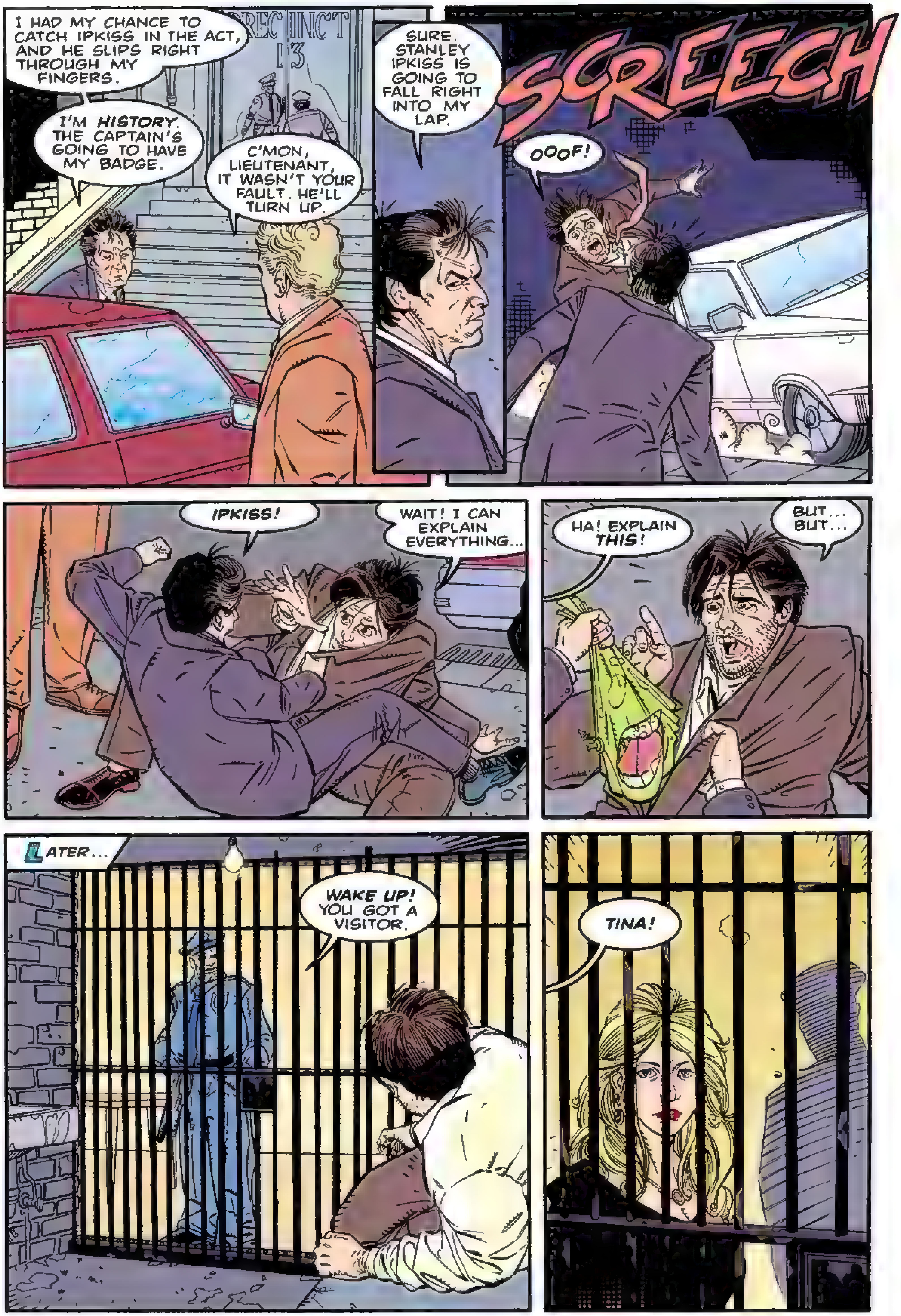

PICTURE OF KELLAWAY'S WIFE...
WHAT THE--?
Call me anytime lover 22257
WHY YOU... YOU...
GEE, I FIGURED YOU HAD A SENSE OF HUMOR.
AFTER ALL, YOU MARRIED HER!
DOYLE?
GET HIM!
HA HA HA
SLAM

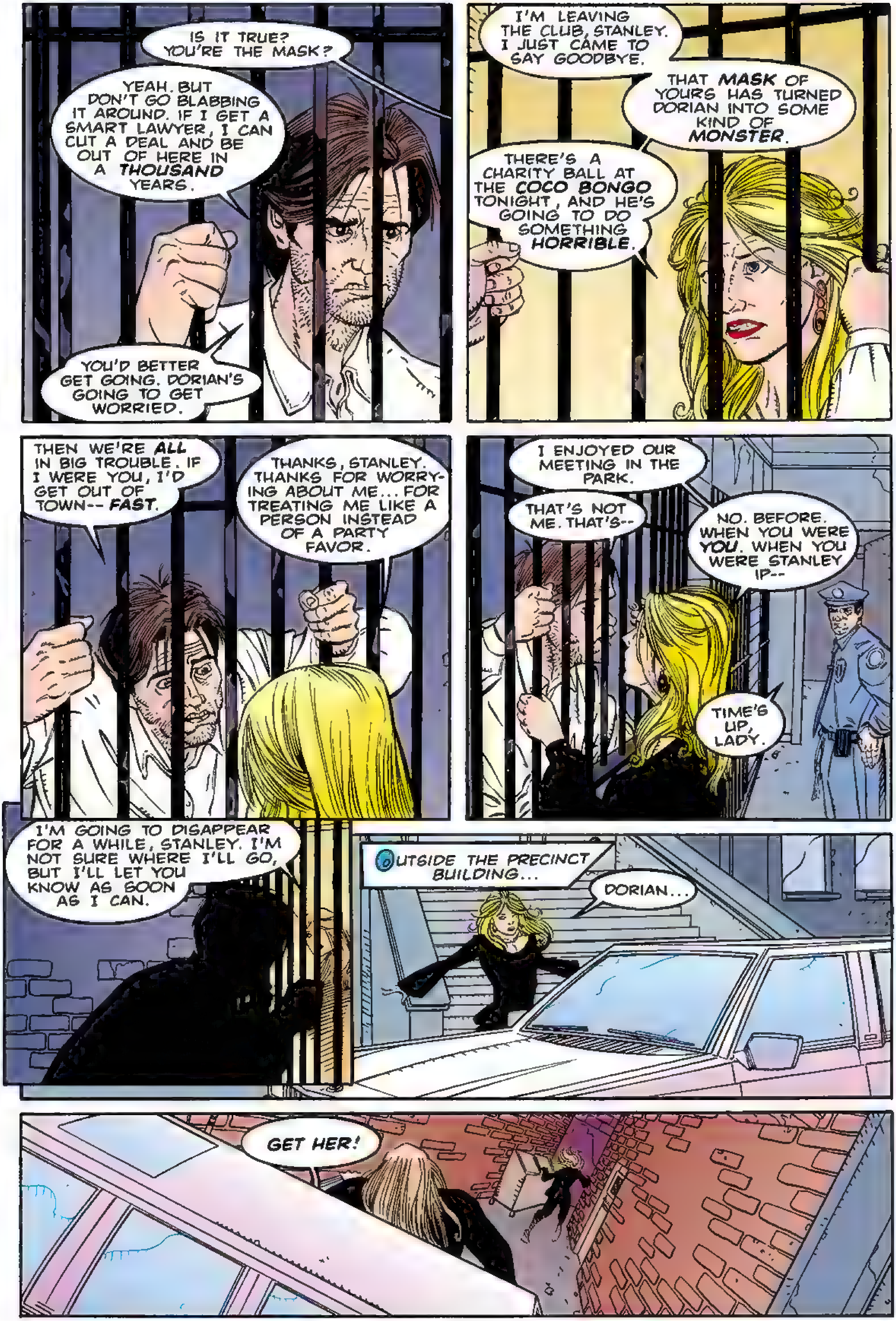

YIPES!
IT'S ALL OVER! PUT YOUR HANDS OVER YOUR HEAD...
...OR WE'LL OPEN FIRE.
HIT IT!
THEY CALL ME CUBAN PETE! I'M THE KING OF THE LATIN BEAT!
I GO CHICK-CHICKY-BOOM, CHICK-CHICKY BOOM, CHICK-CHICKY-BOOM!
HEY, HE'S NOT BAD!
YESSIR, I'M CUBAN PETE! THE CRAZE OF MY NATIVE STREET!
SNAP OUT OF IT!
ARREST THAT THING!
I GO CHICK-CHICKY-BOOM, CHICK-CHICKY-BOOM, CHICK-CHICKY-BOOM!
I'M OUT OF HERE!

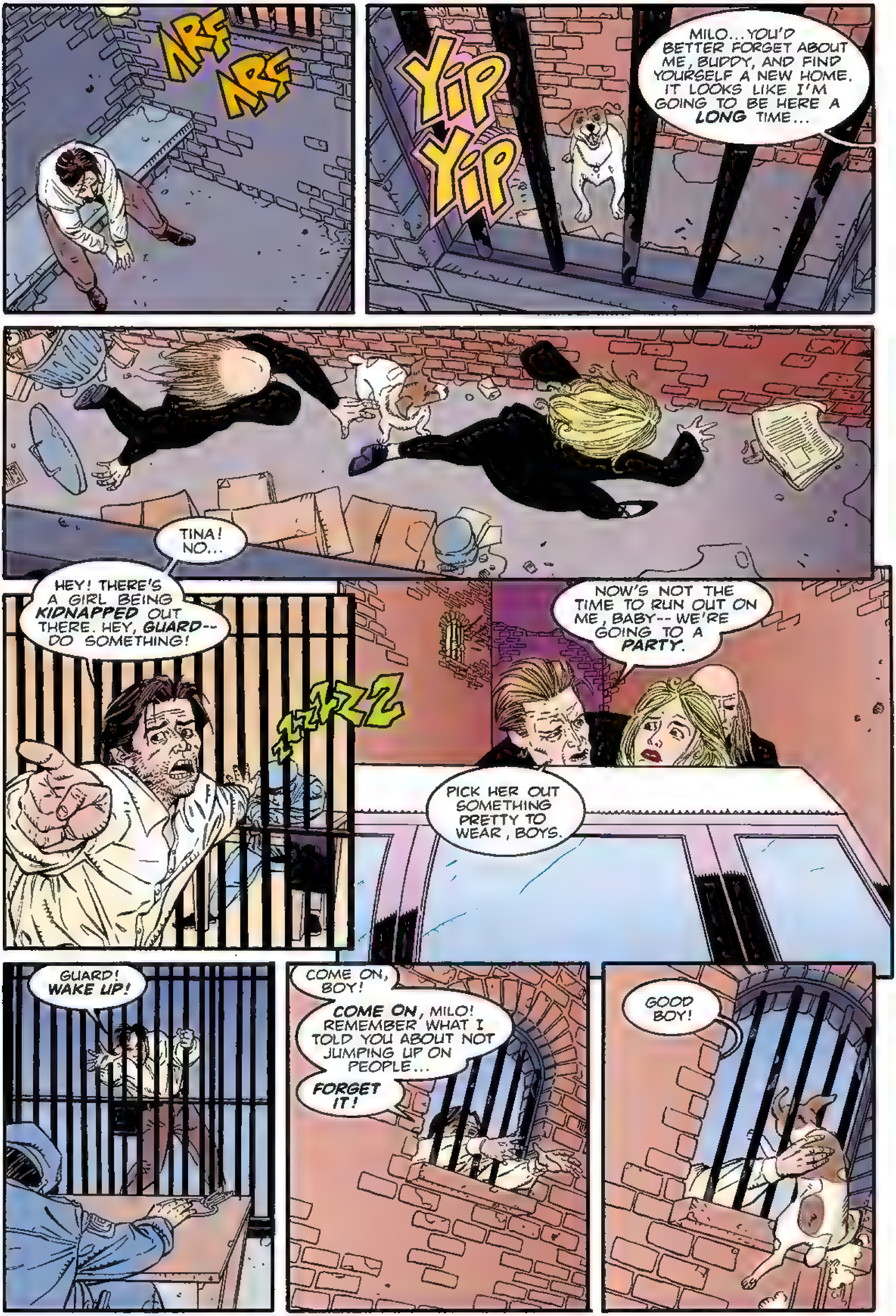

HALT! HALT OR WE'LL SHOOT!
AAAAAAAHHH...
STANLEY! GET IN!
PEGGY! THANKS! WHERE ARE WE GOING?
SOMEPLACE WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE.
A SHORT TIME LATER...
I SAW THE WHOLE THING, STANLEY. WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU?
IT'S CRAZY. I'VE LOST ALL CONTROL. WHEN I PUT ON THIS MASK, I CAN DO ANYTHING...
...BE ANYTHING-- BUT IT'S RUINING MY LIFE.
STANLEY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU, BUT I DO KNOW THIS:
WHATEVER THIS MASK IS, YOU DON'T NEED IT. YOU'VE GOT MORE GUTS AND HEART THAN ANY OF THE CREEPS I'VE MET IN THIS CITY.
GOSH, PEGGY. DO YOU REALLY MEAN IT?
ACTUALLY...NO.
WHAT?!

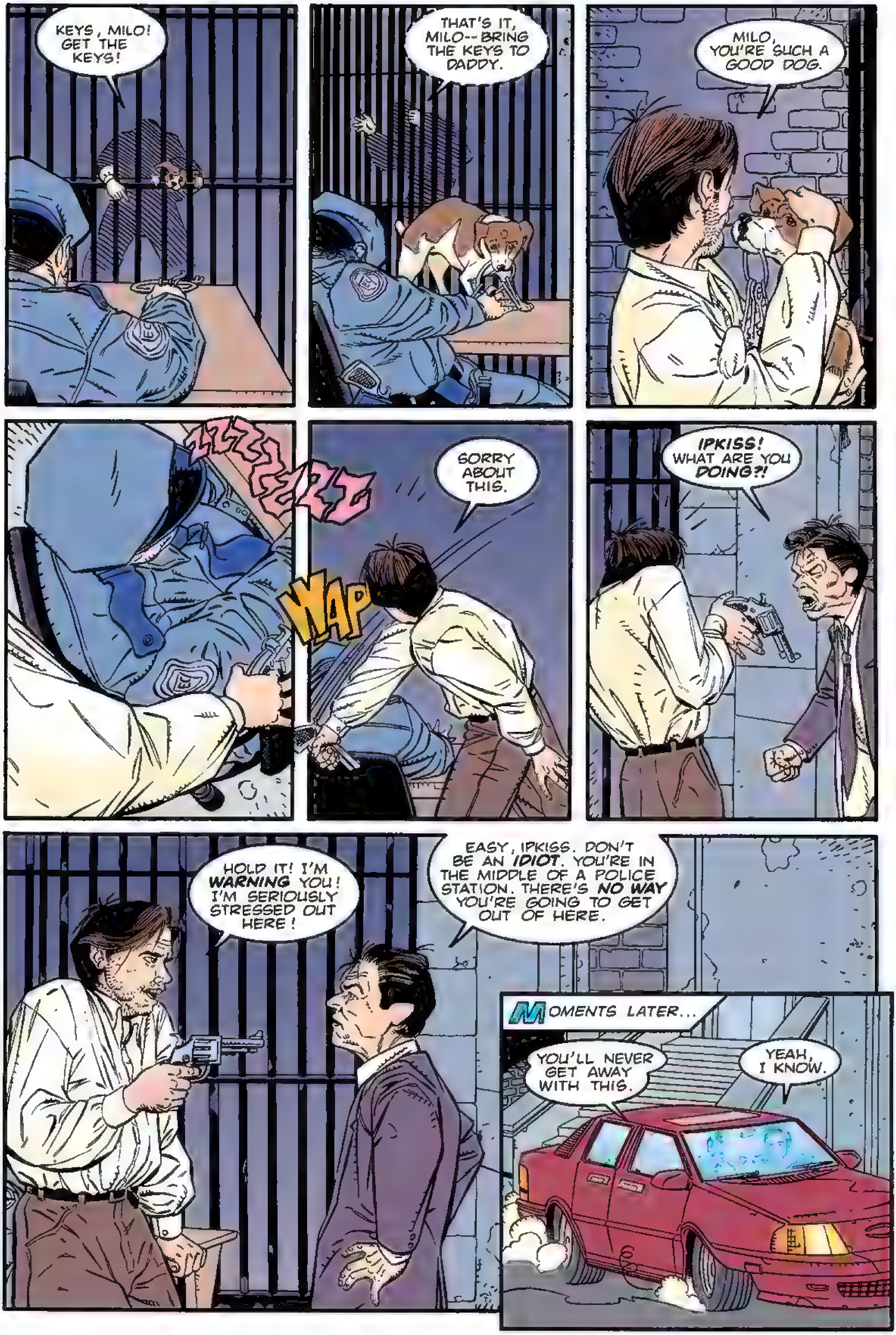

THIS IS *HIM*?
DID YOU BRING THE FIFTY THOU?
PEGGY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHEN HE PUTS ON THAT MASK, HE BECOMES THAT GREEN **THINGAMAJIG**.
SORRY, STANLEY. YOU REALLY **ARE** A NICE GUY, BUT I JUST CAN'T LOSE MY **CONDO**.
OKAY, IPKISS. WHERE'S THE MONEY FROM THE HEIST?
MY APARTMENT. IT'S IN MY APARTMENT.
YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T **HURT** HIM.
YOU'RE RIGHT. EASY, BOYS.
TELL ME ABOUT THIS MASK, IPKISS. HOW DOES IT WORK?
I DON'T KNOW... YOU JUST PUT IT ON.
BETTER BE CAREFUL, BOSS.
RUMBL
KARAAACK

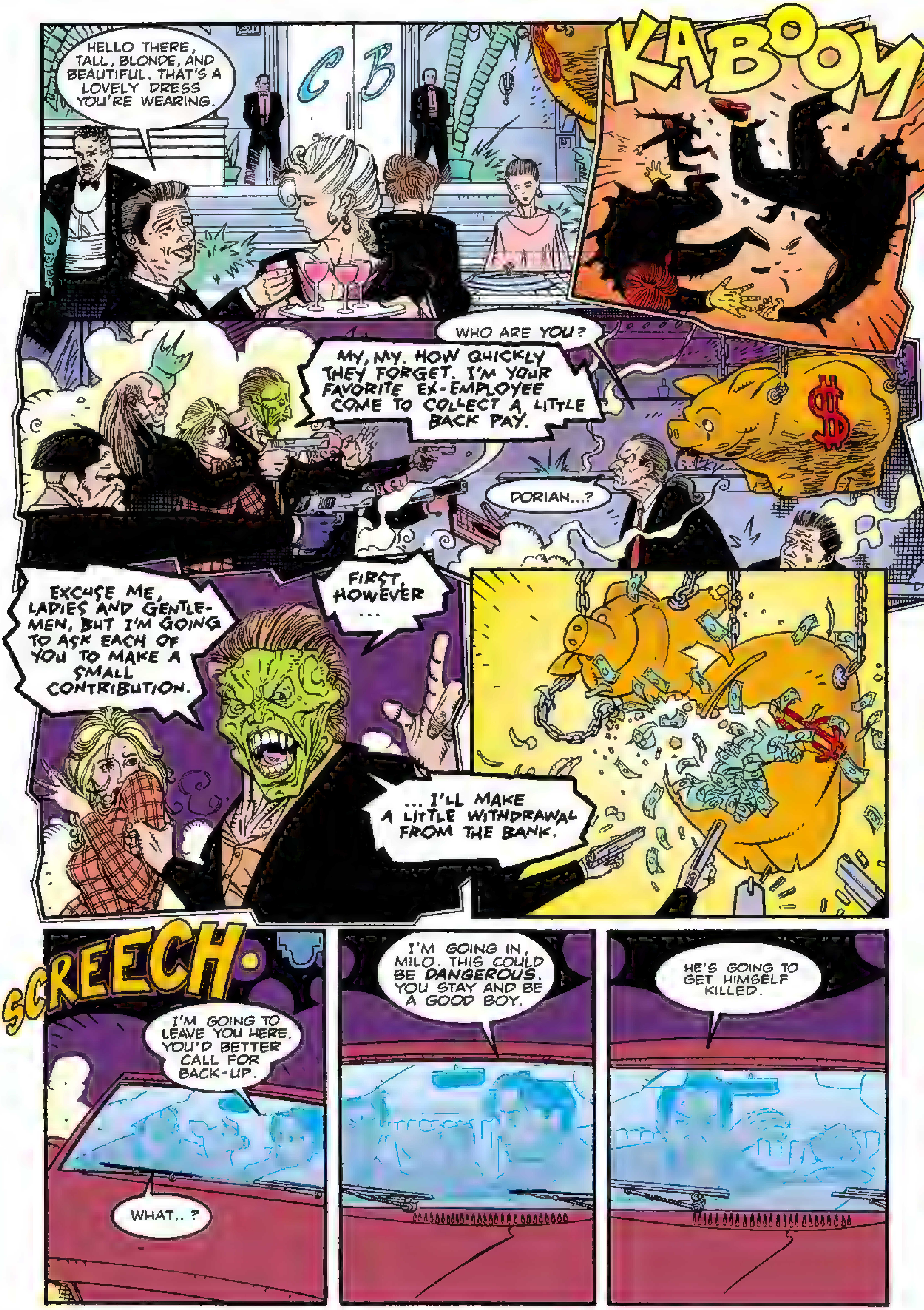

WHAT A RUSH!
AH... EXCUSE ME. IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL TAKE THE MONEY AND GET GOING.
MUST YOU? WHAT A SHAME.
WE COULD MAKE SUCH BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER.
A GIRL LIKE YOU DESERVES TO HAVE HER FACE PLASTERED ALL OVER PAGE ONE.
PEGGY! NO...
EEEEEEE
REPORTER KILLED IN FREAK ACCI
WHAT DO WE DO WITH IPKISS?
BRING HIM. WE'RE GOING TO TIE UP SOME LOOSE ENDS.
OUTSIDE STANLEY'S APARTMENT BUILDING...
IT'S A GOOD THING FOR YOU, IPKISS, THAT THE MONEY WAS WHERE YOU SAID IT'D BE.
NOW, THE POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR THE MASK...
...SO WE'LL GIVE THEM THE MASK.

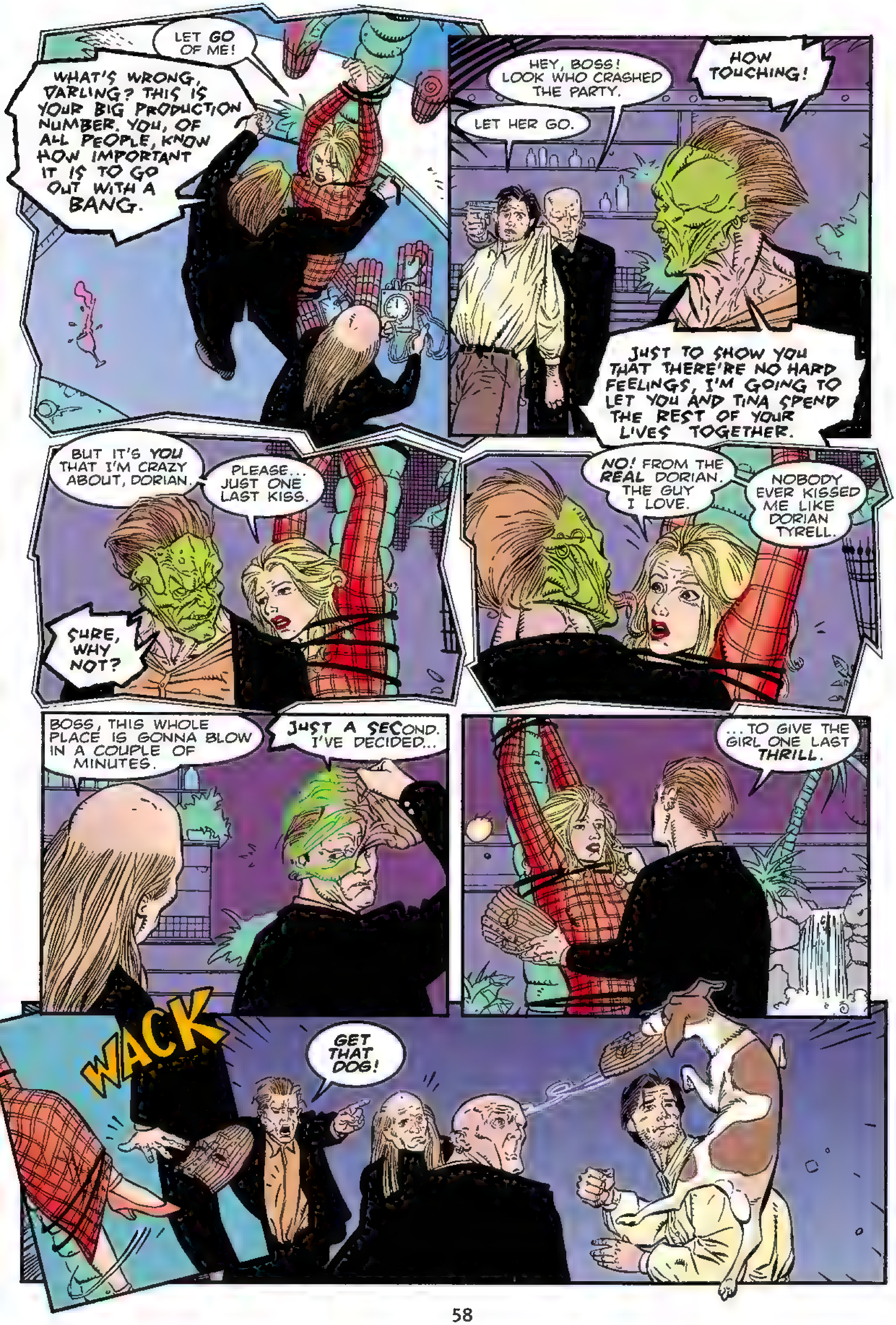

I HAD MY CHANCE TO CATCH IPKISS IN THE ACT, AND HE SLIPS RIGHT THROUGH MY FINGERS.
PRECINCT 13
I'M **HISTORY**. THE CAPTAIN'S GOING TO HAVE MY BADGE.
C'MON, LIEUTENANT, IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT. HE'LL TURN UP.
SURE. STANLEY IPKISS IS GOING TO FALL RIGHT INTO MY LAP.
SCREECH
OOOF!
IPKISS!
WAIT! I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING...
HA! EXPLAIN **THIS**!
BUT... BUT...
LATER...
WAKE UP! YOU GOT A VISITOR.
TINA!

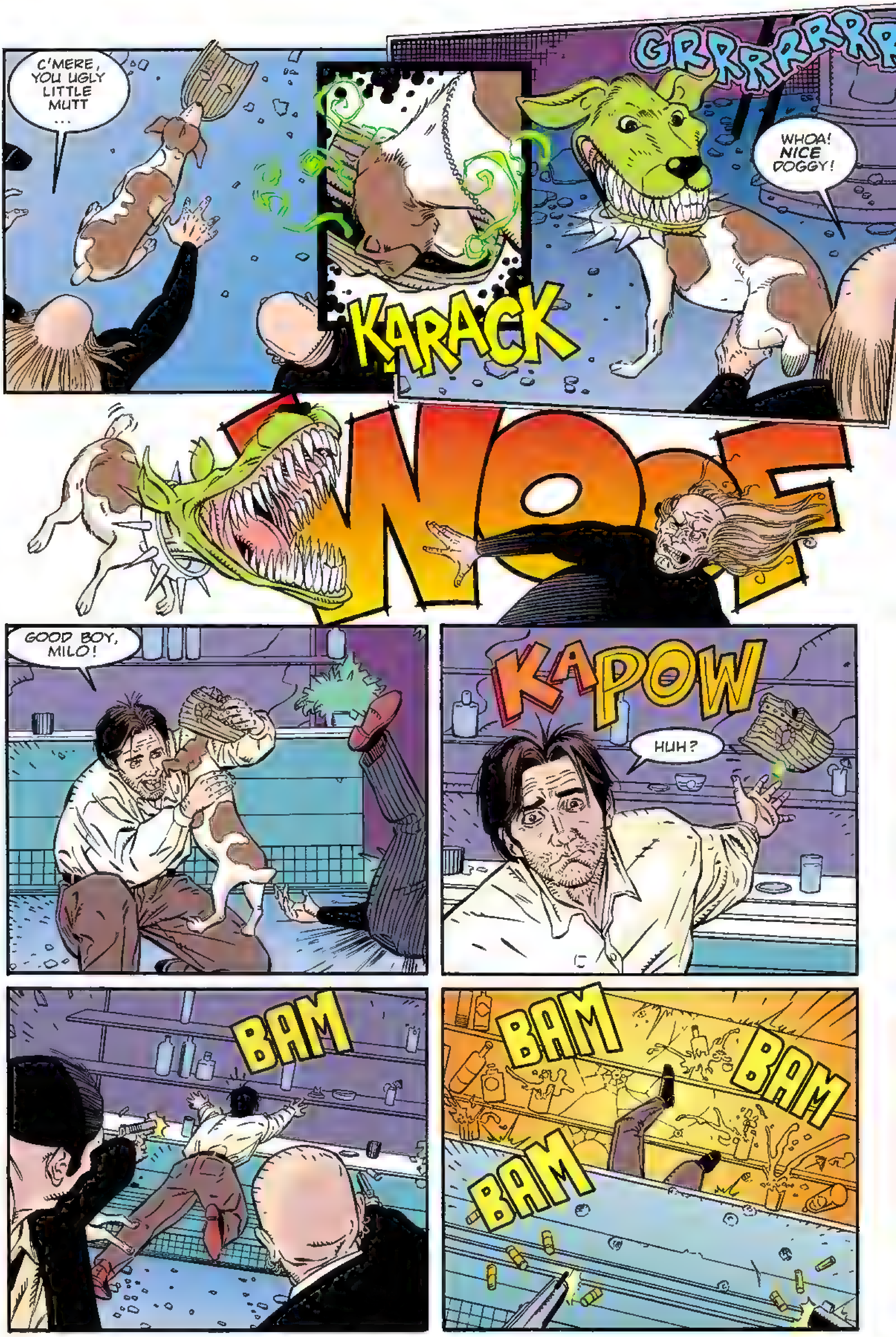

IS IT TRUE? YOU'RE THE MASK?
YEAH. BUT DON'T GO BLABBING IT AROUND. IF I GET A SMART LAWYER, I CAN CUT A DEAL AND BE OUT OF HERE IN A **THOUSAND** YEARS.
YOU'D BETTER GET GOING. DORIAN'S GOING TO GET WORRIED.
I'M LEAVING THE CLUB, STANLEY. I JUST CAME TO SAY GOODBYE.
THAT **MASK** OF YOURS HAS TURNED DORIAN INTO SOME KIND OF **MONSTER**.
THERE'S A CHARITY BALL AT THE **COCO BONGO** TONIGHT, AND HE'S GOING TO DO SOMETHING **HORRIBLE**.
THEN WE'RE **ALL** IN BIG TROUBLE. IF I WERE YOU, I'D GET OUT OF TOWN-- **FAST**.
THANKS, STANLEY. THANKS FOR WORRYING ABOUT ME... FOR TREATING ME LIKE A PERSON INSTEAD OF A PARTY FAVOR.
I ENJOYED OUR MEETING IN THE PARK.
THAT'S NOT ME. THAT'S--
NO. BEFORE. WHEN YOU WERE **YOU**. WHEN YOU WERE STANLEY IP--
TIME'S UP, LADY.
I'M GOING TO DISAPPEAR FOR A WHILE, STANLEY. I'M NOT SURE WHERE I'LL GO, BUT I'LL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS I CAN.
OUTSIDE THE PRECINCT BUILDING...
DORIAN...
GET HER!

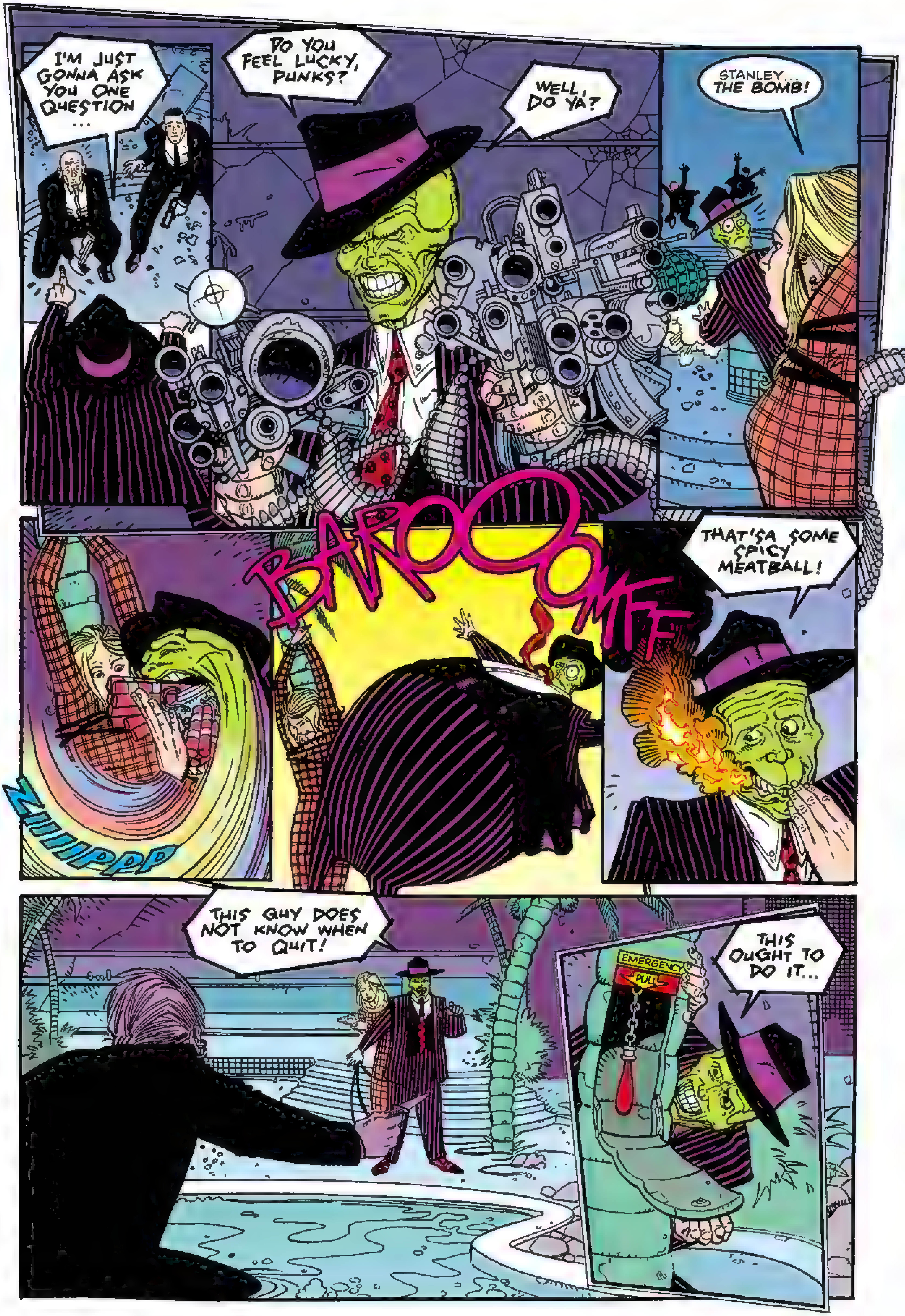

ARF ARF
YIP YIP
MILO... YOU'D BETTER FORGET ABOUT ME, BUDDY, AND FIND YOURSELF A NEW HOME. IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO BE HERE A **LONG** TIME...
TINA! NO...
HEY! THERE'S A GIRL BEING ***KIDNAPPED*** OUT THERE. HEY, ***GUARD***-- DO SOMETHING!
ZZZZZZ
NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO RUN OUT ON ME, BABY-- WE'RE GOING TO A ***PARTY***.
PICK HER OUT SOMETHING PRETTY TO WEAR, BOYS.
GUARD! ***WAKE UP!***
COME ON, BOY!
COME ON, MILO! REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT NOT JUMPING UP ON PEOPLE...
FORGET IT!
GOOD BOY!

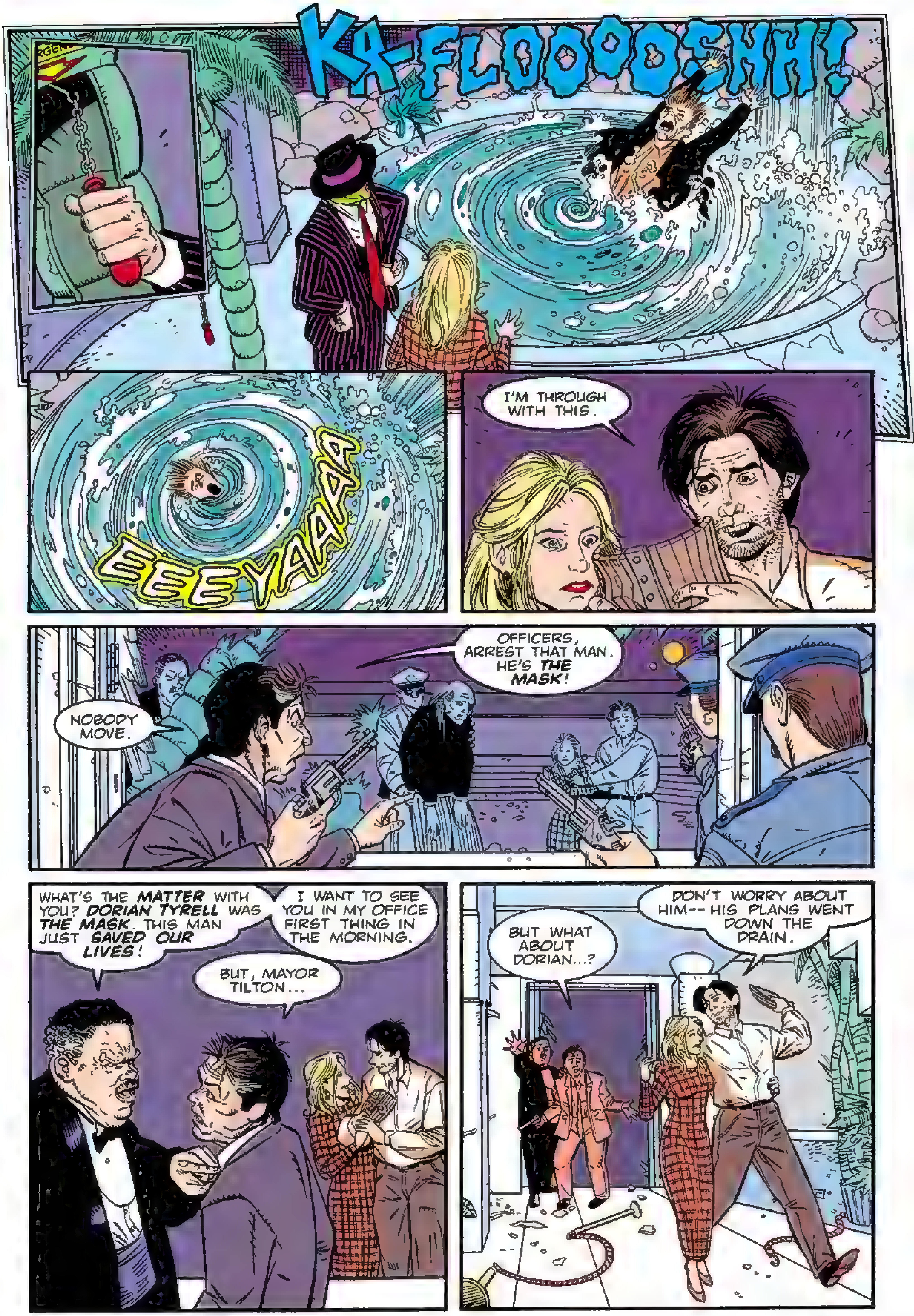

KEYS, MILO! GET THE KEYS!
THAT'S IT, MILO-- BRING THE KEYS TO DADDY.
MILO, YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD DOG.
ZZZZZZZ
WAP
SORRY ABOUT THIS.
IPKISS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HOLD IT! I'M WARNING YOU! I'M SERIOUSLY STRESSED OUT HERE!
EASY, IPKISS. DON'T BE AN IDIOT. YOU'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A POLICE STATION. THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GOING TO GET OUT OF HERE.
MOMENTS LATER...
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS.
YEAH, I KNOW.

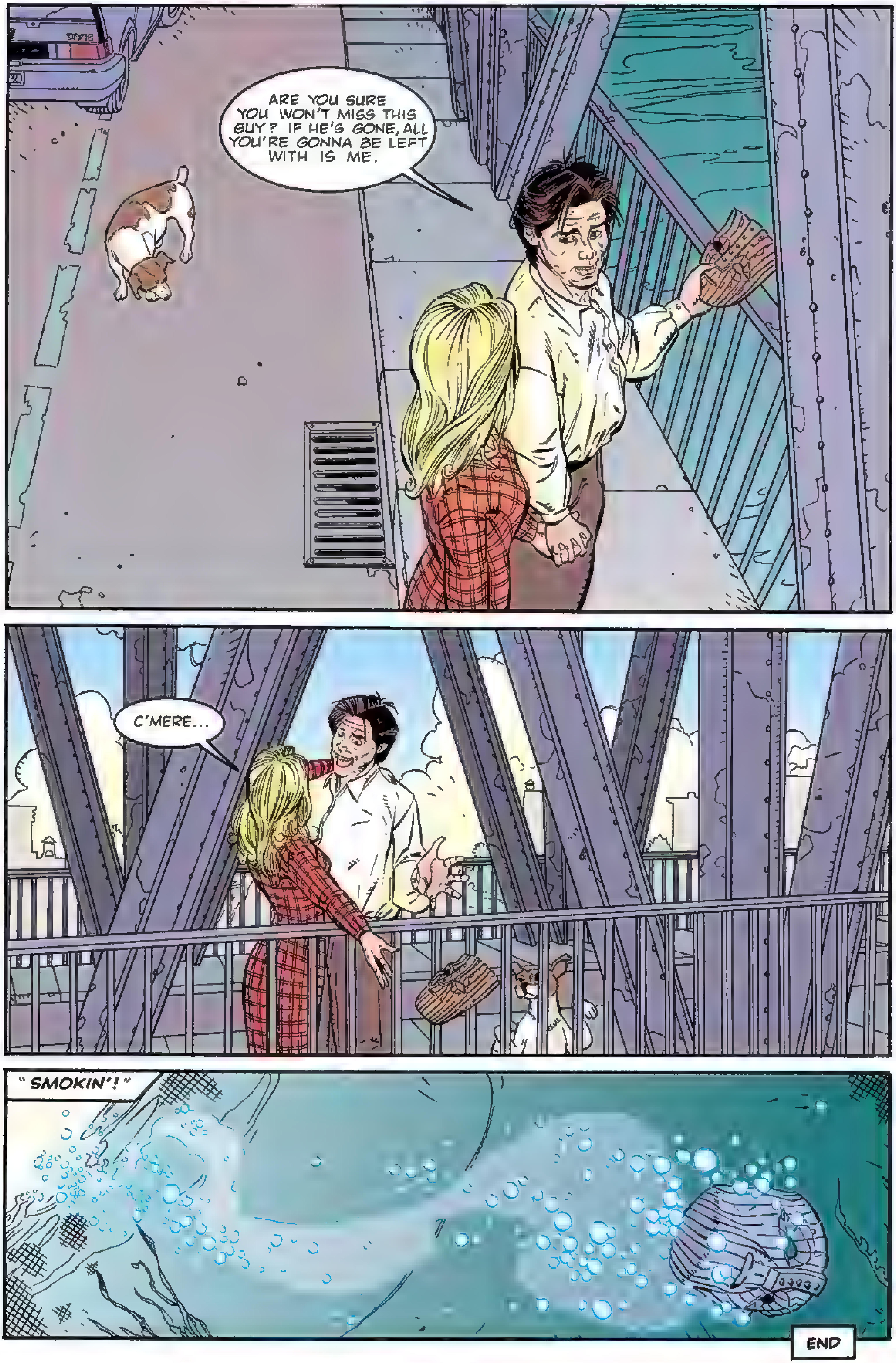

HELLO THERE, TALL, BLONDE, AND BEAUTIFUL. THAT'S A LOVELY DRESS YOU'RE WEARING.
CB
KABOOM
WHO ARE YOU?
MY, MY. HOW QUICKLY THEY FORGET. I'M YOUR FAVORITE EX-EMPLOYEE COME TO COLLECT A LITTLE BACK PAY.
$
DORIAN...?
EXCUSE ME, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, BUT I'M GOING TO ASK EACH OF YOU TO MAKE A SMALL CONTRIBUTION.
FIRST, HOWEVER ...
... I'LL MAKE A LITTLE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE BANK.
SCREECH
I'M GOING TO LEAVE YOU HERE. YOU'D BETTER CALL FOR BACK-UP.
WHAT..?
I'M GOING IN, MILO. THIS COULD BE DANGEROUS. YOU STAY AND BE A GOOD BOY.
HE'S GOING TO GET HIMSELF KILLED.


LET GO OF ME!
WHAT'S WRONG, DARLING? THIS IS YOUR BIG PRODUCTION NUMBER. YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO GO OUT WITH A BANG.
HEY, BOSS! LOOK WHO CRASHED THE PARTY.
HOW TOUCHING!
LET HER GO.
JUST TO SHOW YOU THAT THERE'RE NO HARD FEELINGS, I'M GOING TO LET YOU AND TINA SPEND THE REST OF YOUR LIVES TOGETHER.
BUT IT'S YOU THAT I'M CRAZY ABOUT, DORIAN.
PLEASE... JUST ONE LAST KISS.
SURE, WHY NOT?
NO! FROM THE REAL DORIAN. THE GUY I LOVE.
NOBODY EVER KISSED ME LIKE DORIAN TYRELL.
BOSS, THIS WHOLE PLACE IS GONNA BLOW IN A COUPLE OF MINUTES.
JUST A SECOND. I'VE DECIDED...
...TO GIVE THE GIRL ONE LAST THRILL.
WACK
GET THAT DOG!


C'MERE, YOU UGLY LITTLE MUTT . . .
KARACK
GRRRRRR
WHOA! NICE DOGGY!
WOOF
GOOD BOY, MILO!
KAPOW
HUH?
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM


I'M JUST GONNA ASK YOU ONE QUESTION ...
DO YOU FEEL LUCKY, PUNKS?
WELL, DO YA?
STANLEY... THE BOMB!
BAROOOMFF
THAT'SA SOME SPICY MEATBALL!
ZIIIIPPPP
THIS GUY DOES NOT KNOW WHEN TO QUIT!
EMERGENCY PULL
THIS OUGHT TO DO IT...


KA-FLOOOOSHH!
EEEYAAAA
I'M THROUGH WITH THIS.
OFFICERS, ARREST THAT MAN. HE'S THE MASK!
NOBODY MOVE.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? DORIAN TYRELL WAS THE MASK. THIS MAN JUST SAVED OUR LIVES!
I WANT TO SEE YOU IN MY OFFICE FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.
BUT, MAYOR TILTON...
BUT WHAT ABOUT DORIAN...?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM-- HIS PLANS WENT DOWN THE DRAIN.


ARE YOU SURE YOU WON'T MISS THIS GUY? IF HE'S GONE, ALL YOU'RE GONNA BE LEFT WITH IS ME.
C'MERE...
"SMOKIN'!"
END

WHO IS THAT MASKED MAN?

script
MICHAEL EURY

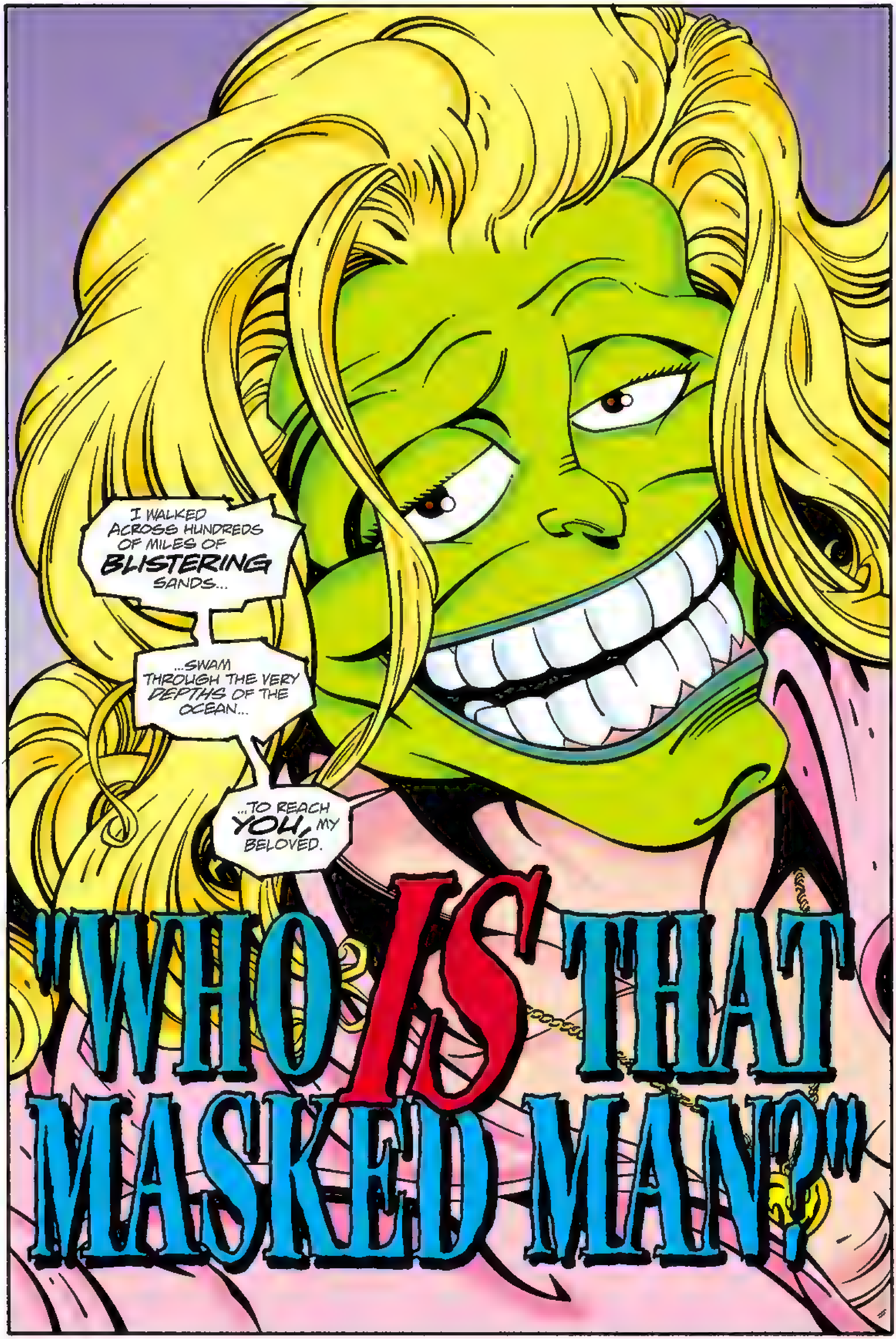
pencils
NEIL VOKES

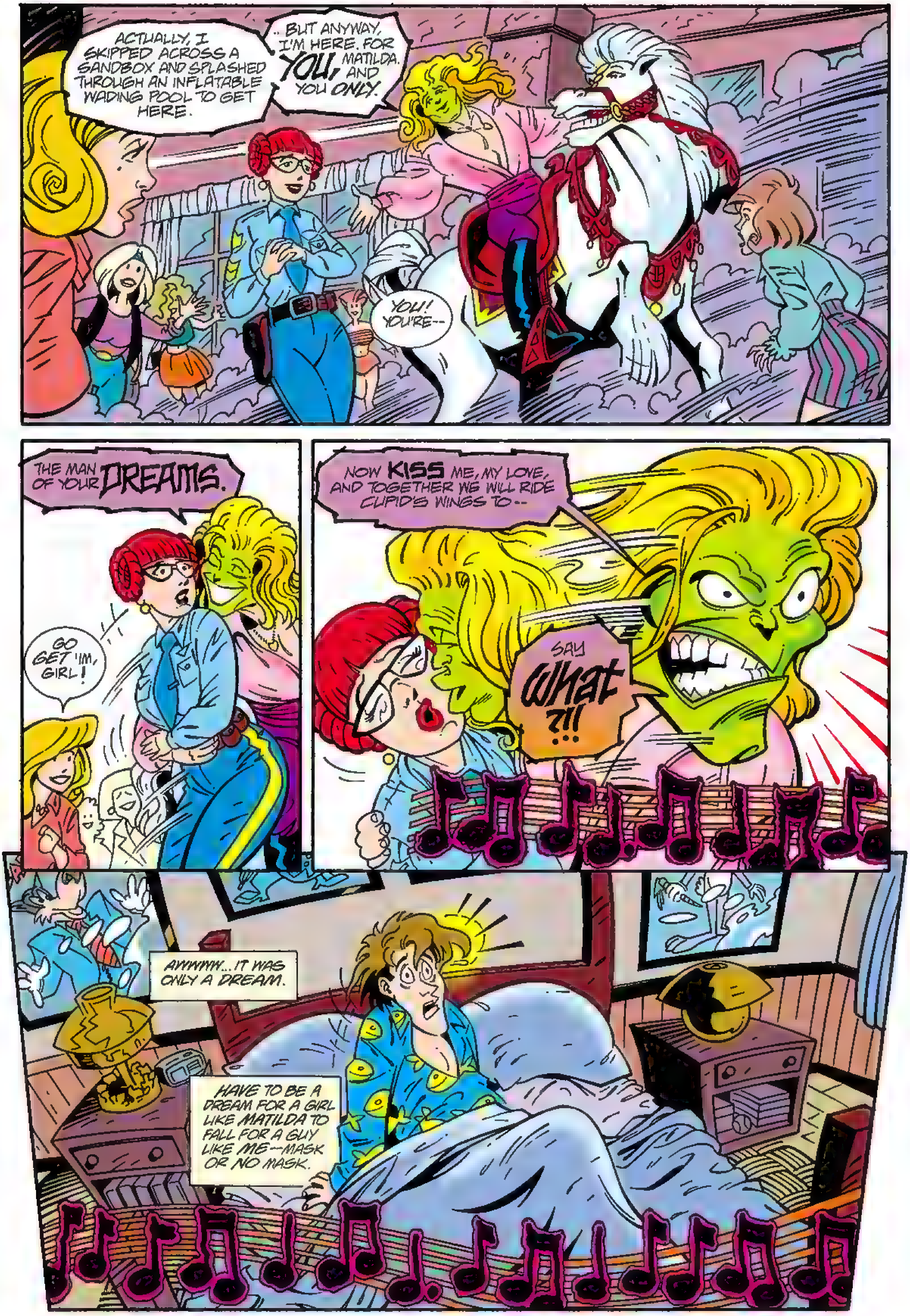
inks
JAY GELDHOF

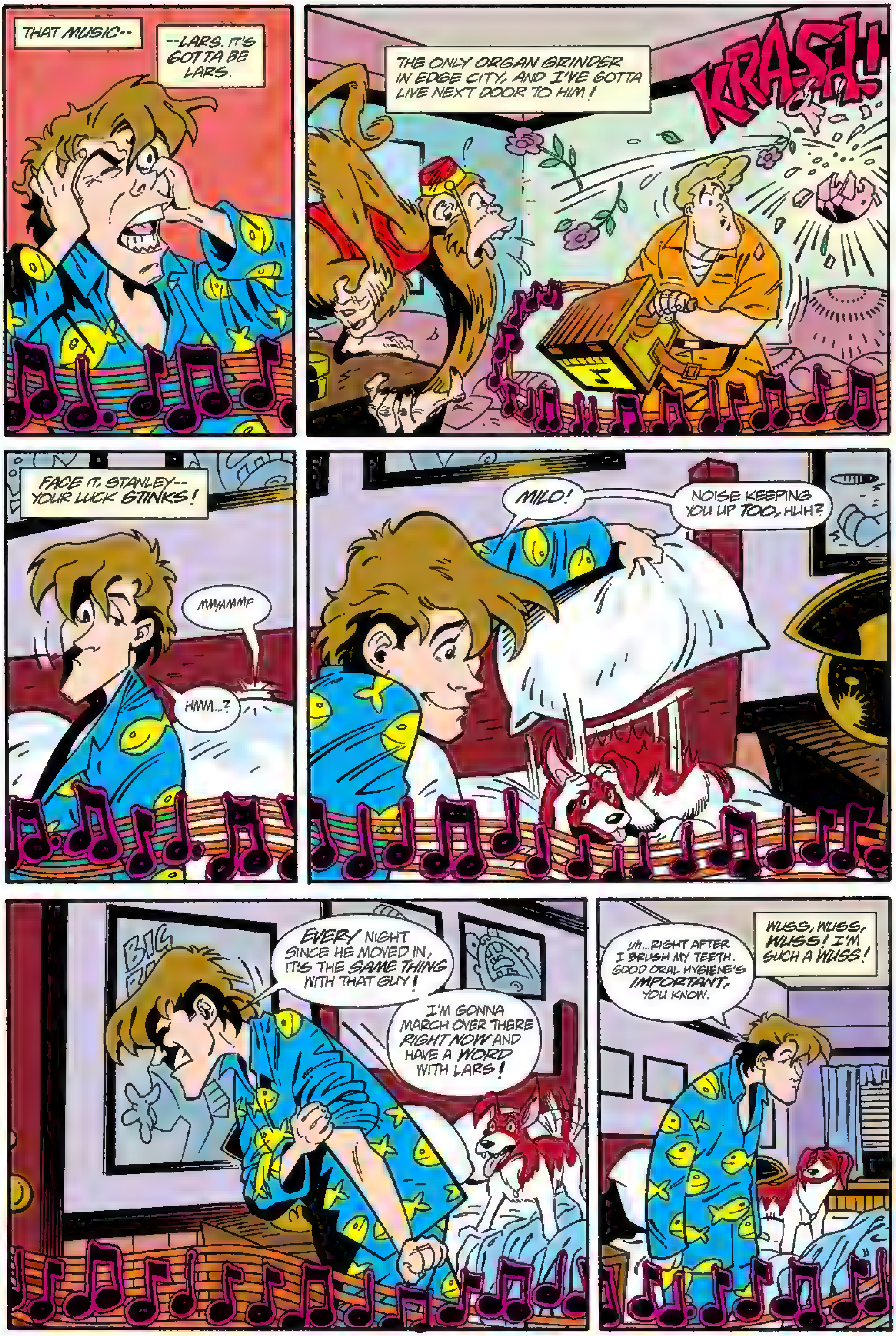
colors
MATT WEBB

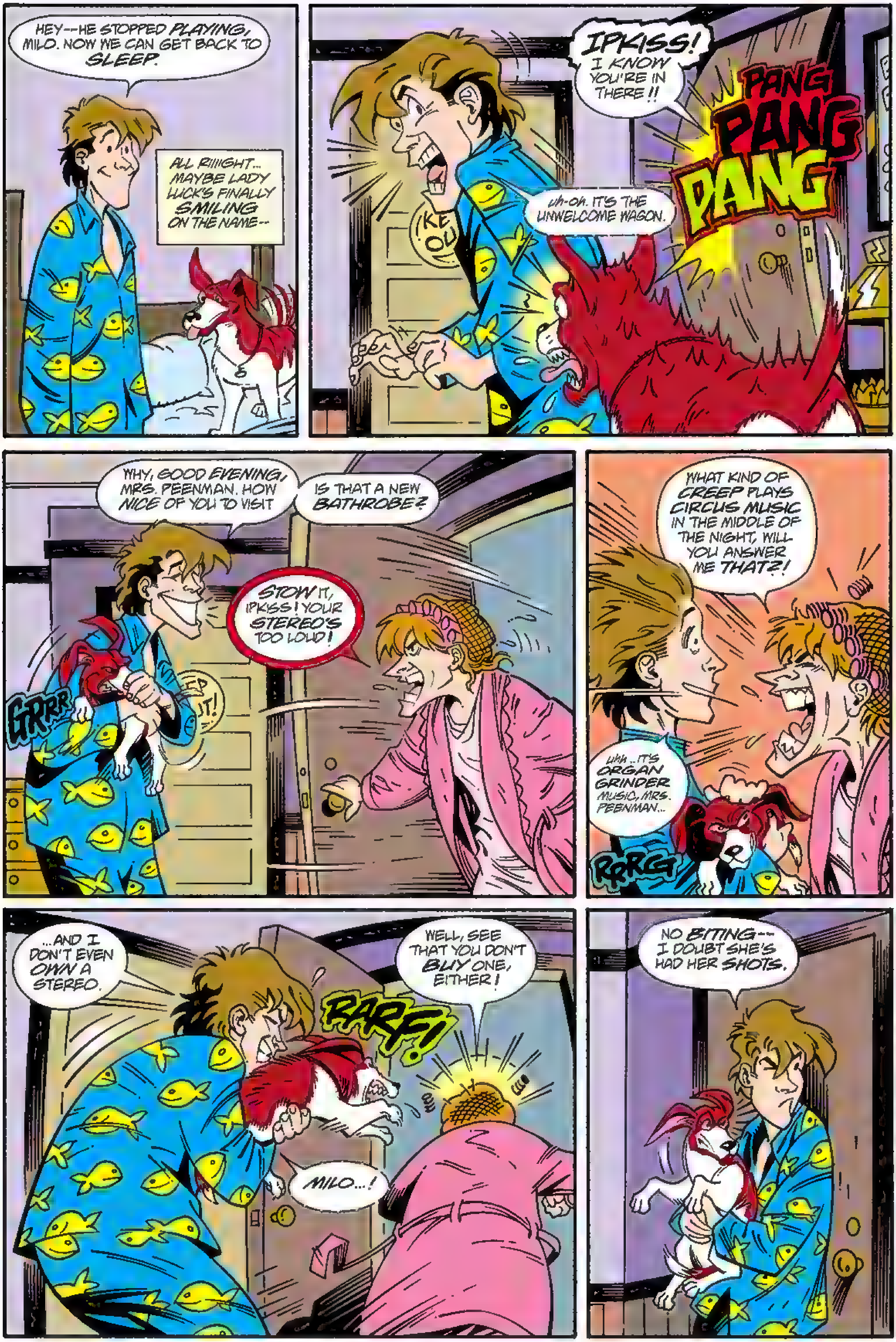
lettering
CLEM ROBINS

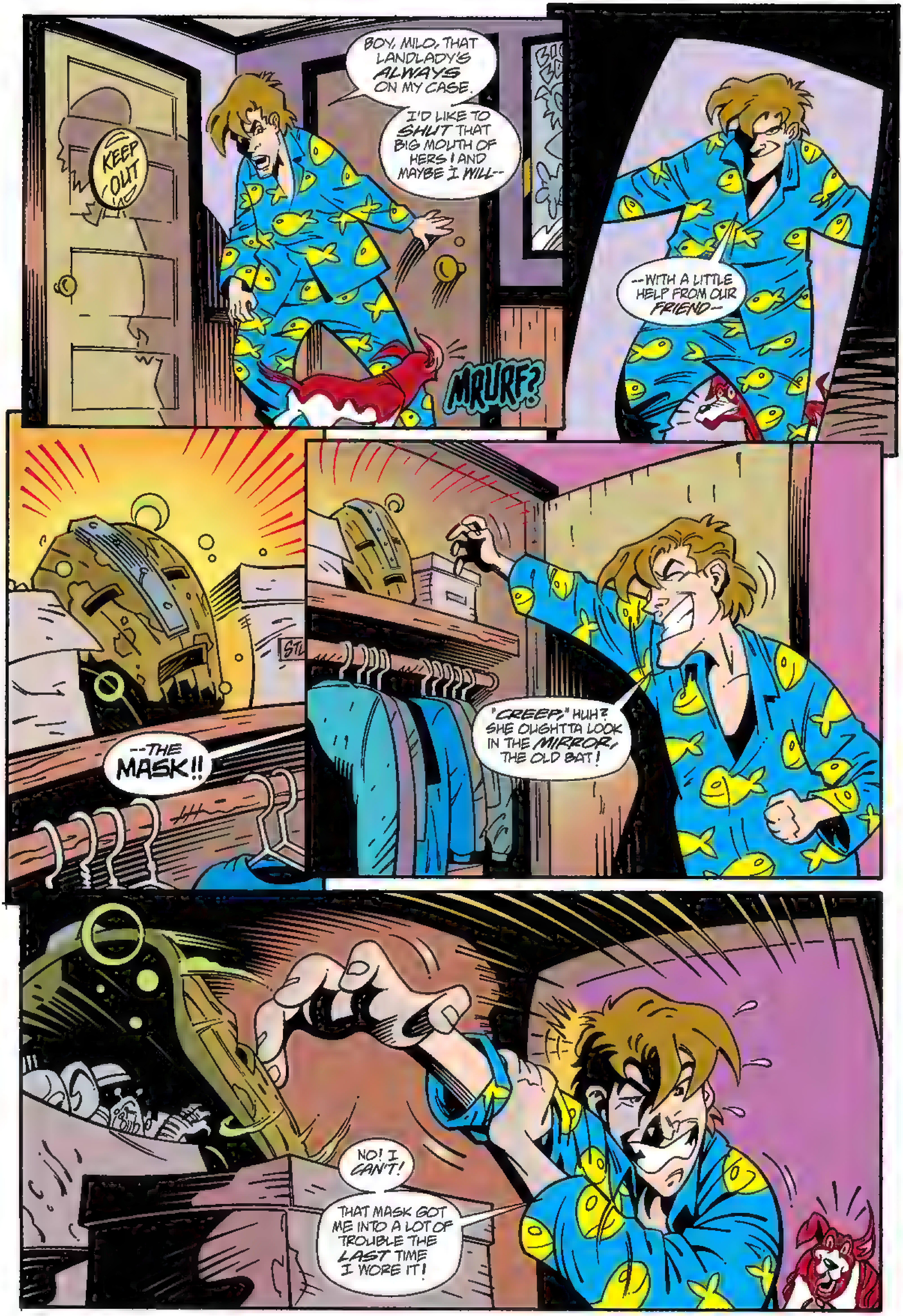
title illustration
BRUCE TIMM

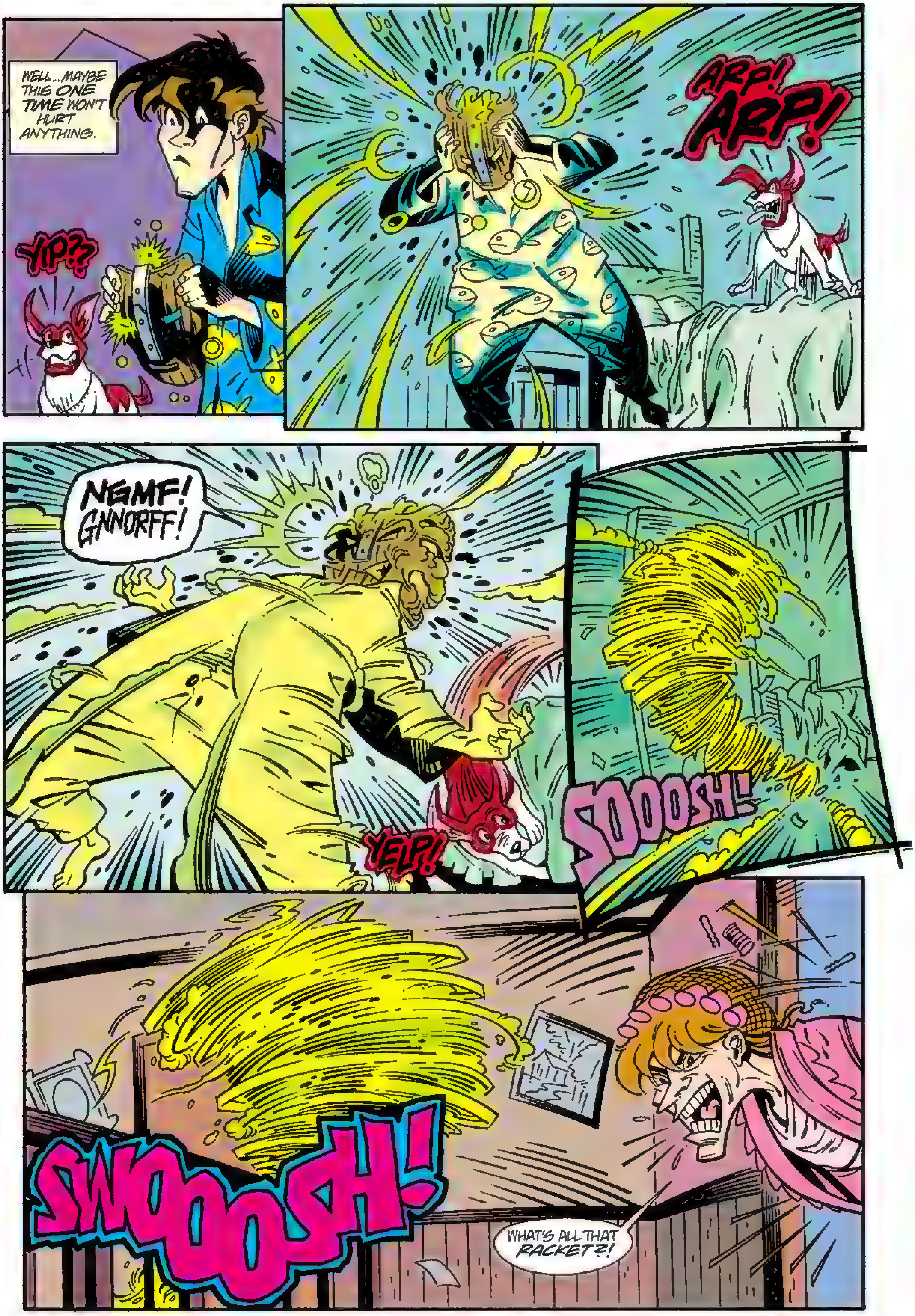

I WALKED ACROSS HUNDREDS OF MILES OF BLISTERING SANDS...
...SWAM THROUGH THE VERY DEPTHS OF THE OCEAN...
...TO REACH YOU, MY BELOVED.
"WHO IS THAT MASKED MAN?"

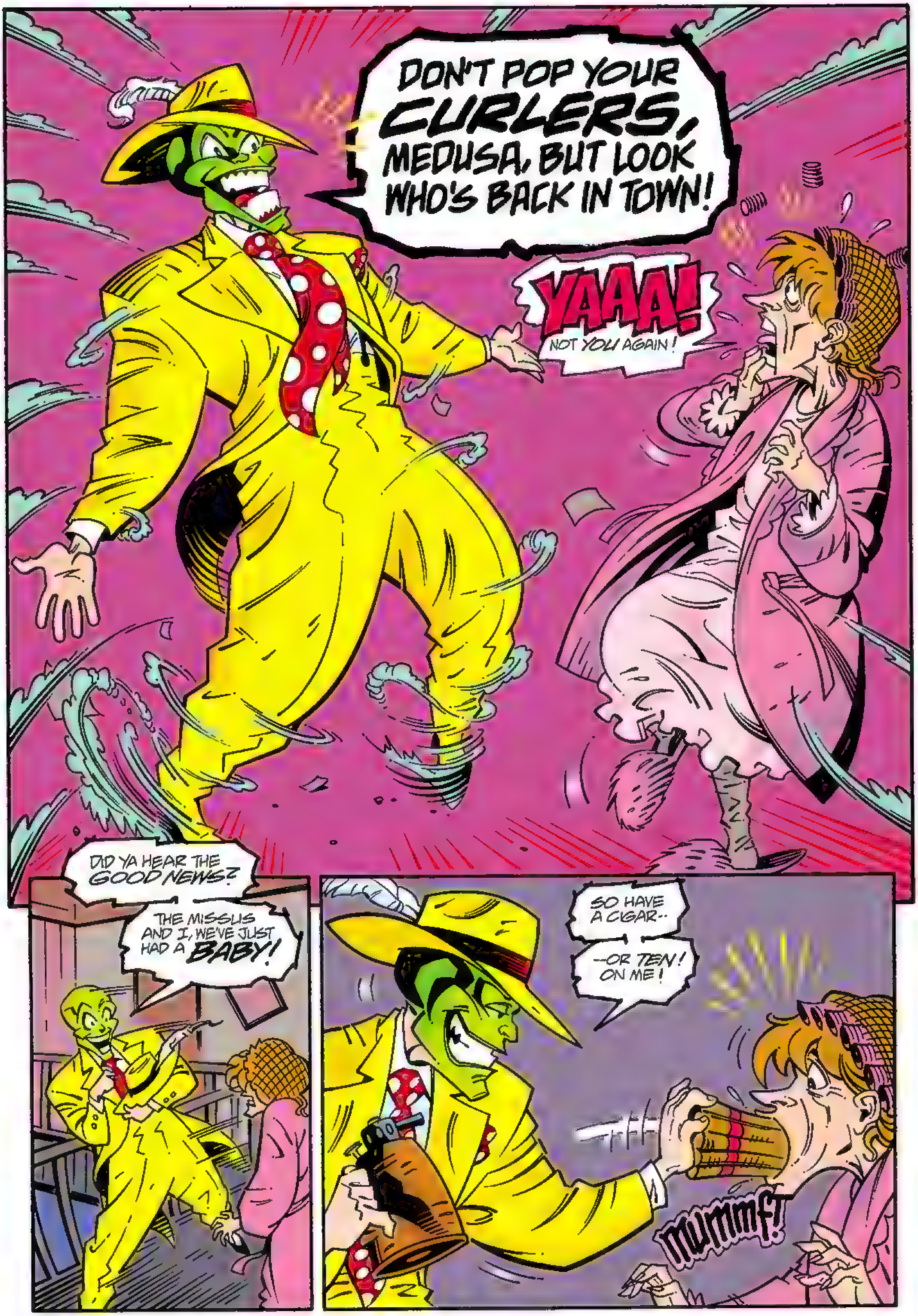

ACTUALLY, I SKIPPED ACROSS A SANDBOX AND SPLASHED THROUGH AN INFLATABLE WADING POOL TO GET HERE.
..BUT ANYWAY, I'M HERE FOR YOU, MATILDA, AND YOU ONLY.
YOU! YOU'RE--
THE MAN OF YOUR DREAMS.
GO GET 'IM, GIRL!
NOW KISS ME, MY LOVE, AND TOGETHER WE WILL RIDE CUPID'S WINGS TO--
SAY WHAT?!!
AWWWW... IT WAS ONLY A DREAM.
HAVE TO BE A DREAM FOR A GIRL LIKE MATILDA TO FALL FOR A GUY LIKE ME--MASK OR NO MASK.

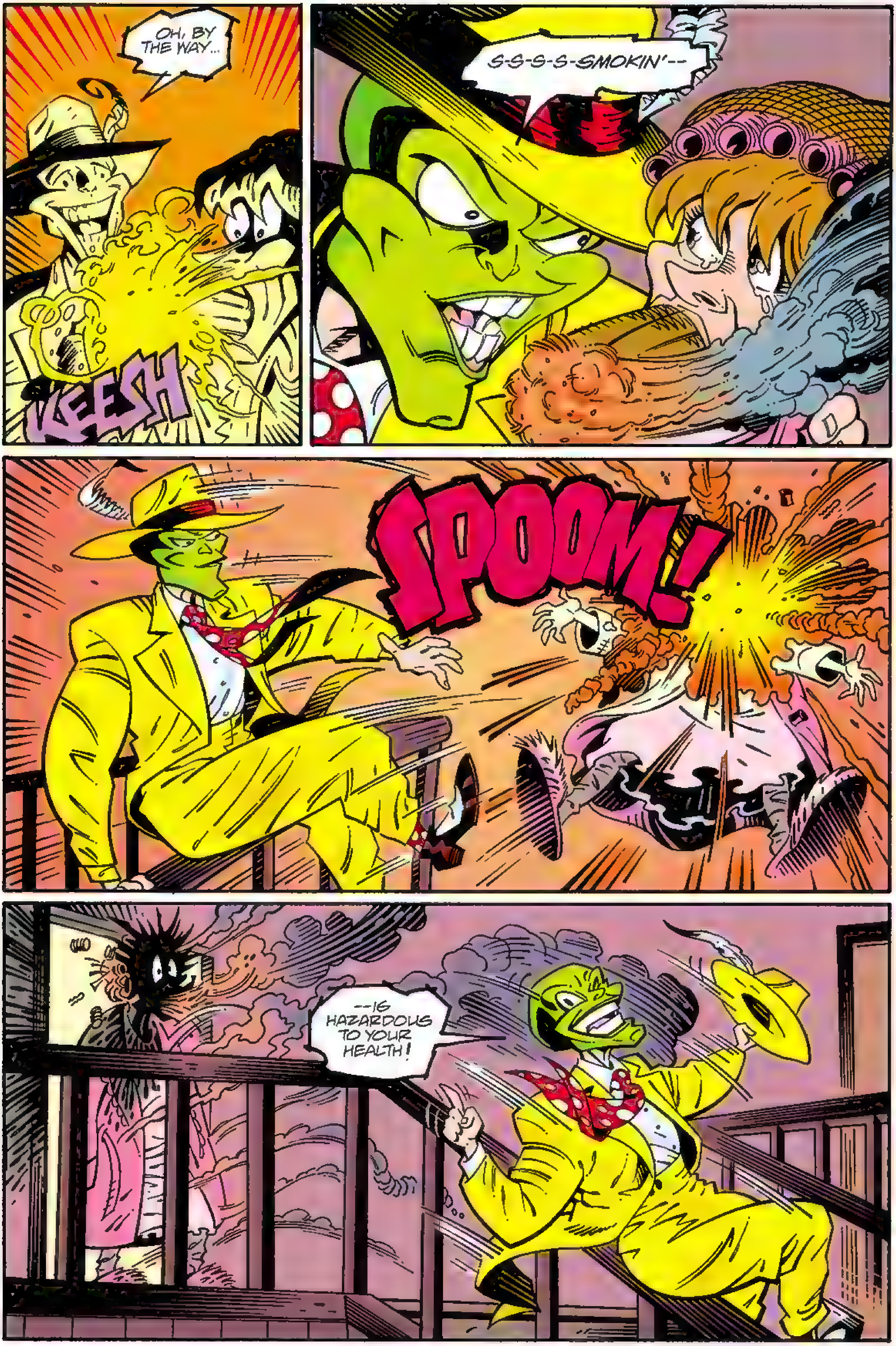

THAT MUSIC--
--LARS. IT'S GOTTA BE LARS.
THE ONLY ORGAN GRINDER IN EDGE CITY, AND I'VE GOTTA LIVE NEXT DOOR TO HIM!
KRASH!
FACE IT, STANLEY-- YOUR LUCK STINKS!
MMMMMF
HMM...?
MILO!
NOISE KEEPING YOU UP TOO, HUH?
EVERY NIGHT SINCE HE MOVED IN, IT'S THE SAME THING WITH THAT GUY!
I'M GONNA MARCH OVER THERE RIGHT NOW AND HAVE A WORD WITH LARS!
UH... RIGHT AFTER I BRUSH MY TEETH. GOOD ORAL HYGIENE'S IMPORTANT, YOU KNOW.
WUSS, WUSS, WUSS! I'M SUCH A WUSS!

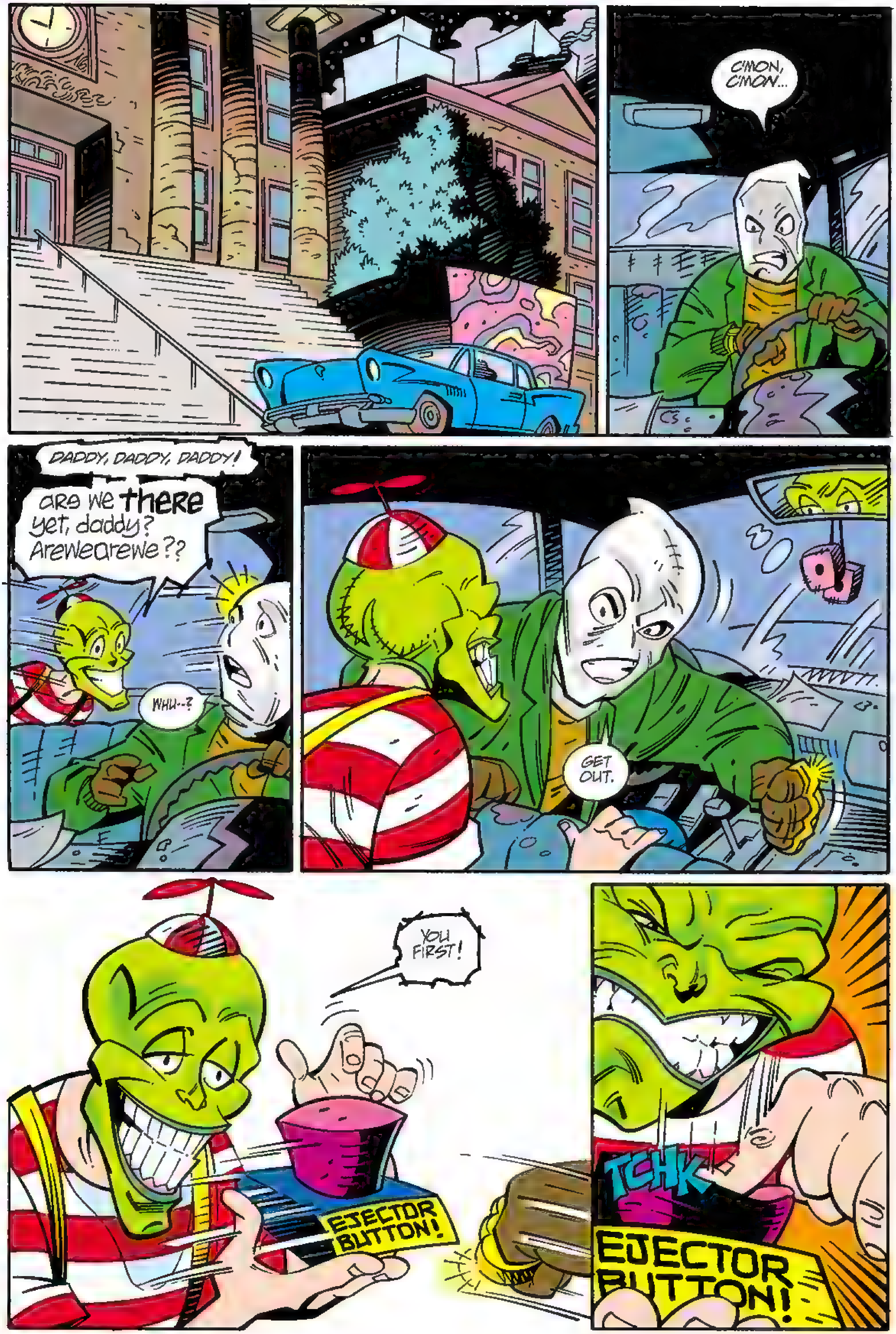

HEY--HE STOPPED PLAYING, MILO. NOW WE CAN GET BACK TO SLEEP.
ALL RIIIGHT... MAYBE LADY LUCK'S FINALLY SMILING ON THE NAME--
IPKISS! I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!!
PANG PANG PANG
uh-oh. IT'S THE UNWELCOME WAGON.
WHY, GOOD EVENING, MRS. PEENMAN. HOW NICE OF YOU TO VISIT.
IS THAT A NEW BATHROBE?
STOW IT, IPKISS! YOUR STEREO'S TOO LOUD!
GRRR
WHAT KIND OF CREEP PLAYS CIRCUS MUSIC IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, WILL YOU ANSWER ME THAT?!
uhh... IT'S ORGAN GRINDER MUSIC, MRS. PEENMAN...
RRRG
...AND I DON'T EVEN OWN A STEREO.
WELL, SEE THAT YOU DON'T BUY ONE, EITHER!
RARF!
MILO...!
NO BITING-- I DOUBT SHE'S HAD HER SHOTS.

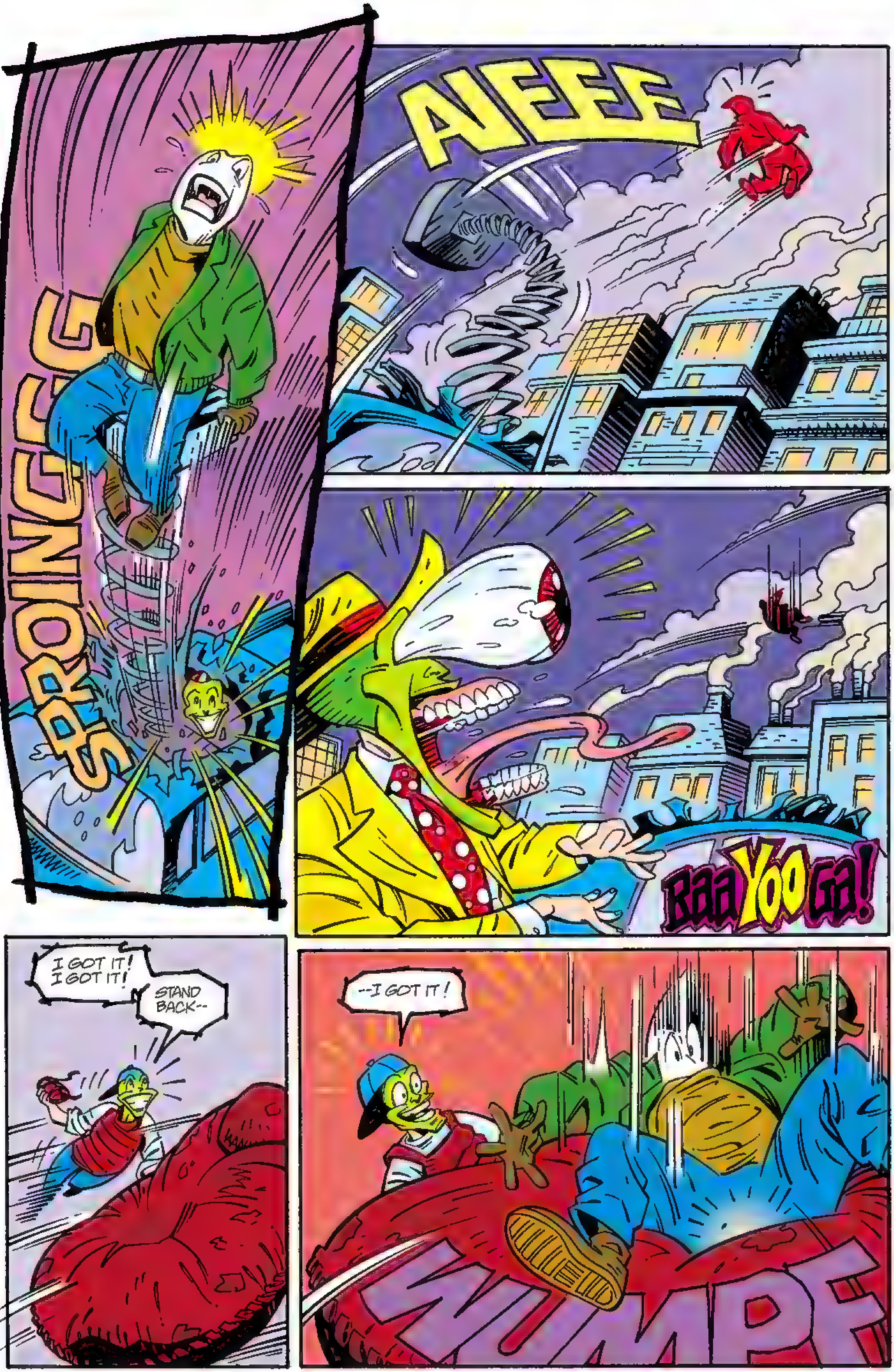

KEEP OUT
BOY, MILO, THAT LANDLADY'S *ALWAYS* ON MY CASE.
I'D LIKE TO *SHUT* THAT BIG MOUTH OF HERS! AND MAYBE I *WILL*--
MRURF?
--WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR *FRIEND*--
--THE MASK!!
"*CREEP*," HUH? SHE OUGHTTA LOOK IN THE *MIRROR*, THE OLD BAT!
NO! I *CAN'T*!
THAT MASK GOT ME INTO A LOT OF TROUBLE THE *LAST* TIME I WORE IT!

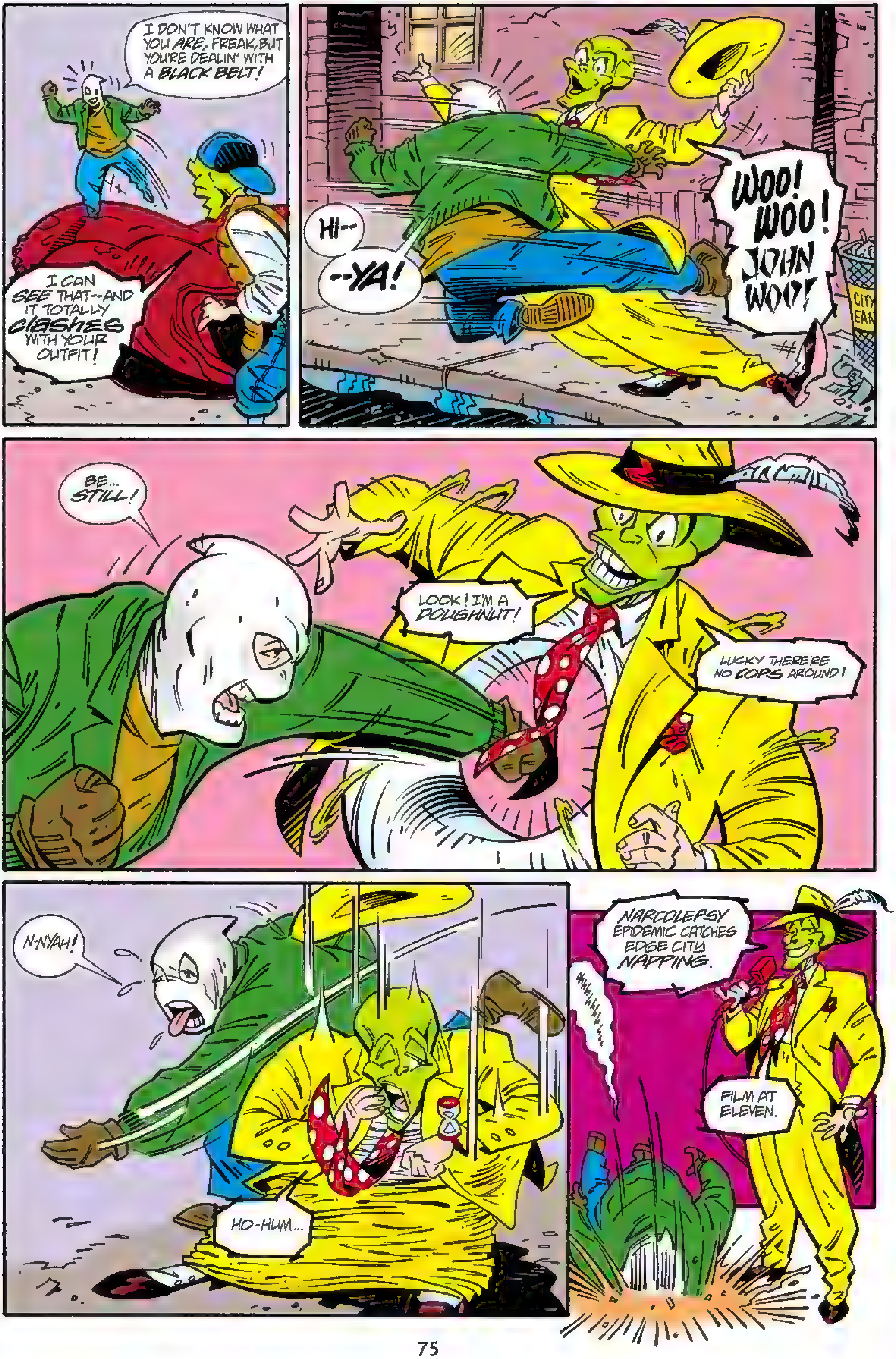

WELL...MAYBE THIS ONE TIME WON'T HURT ANYTHING.
YIP??
ARP! ARP!
NGMF! GNNORFF!
YELP!
SOOOSH!
SWOOOSH!
WHAT'S ALL THAT RACKET?!

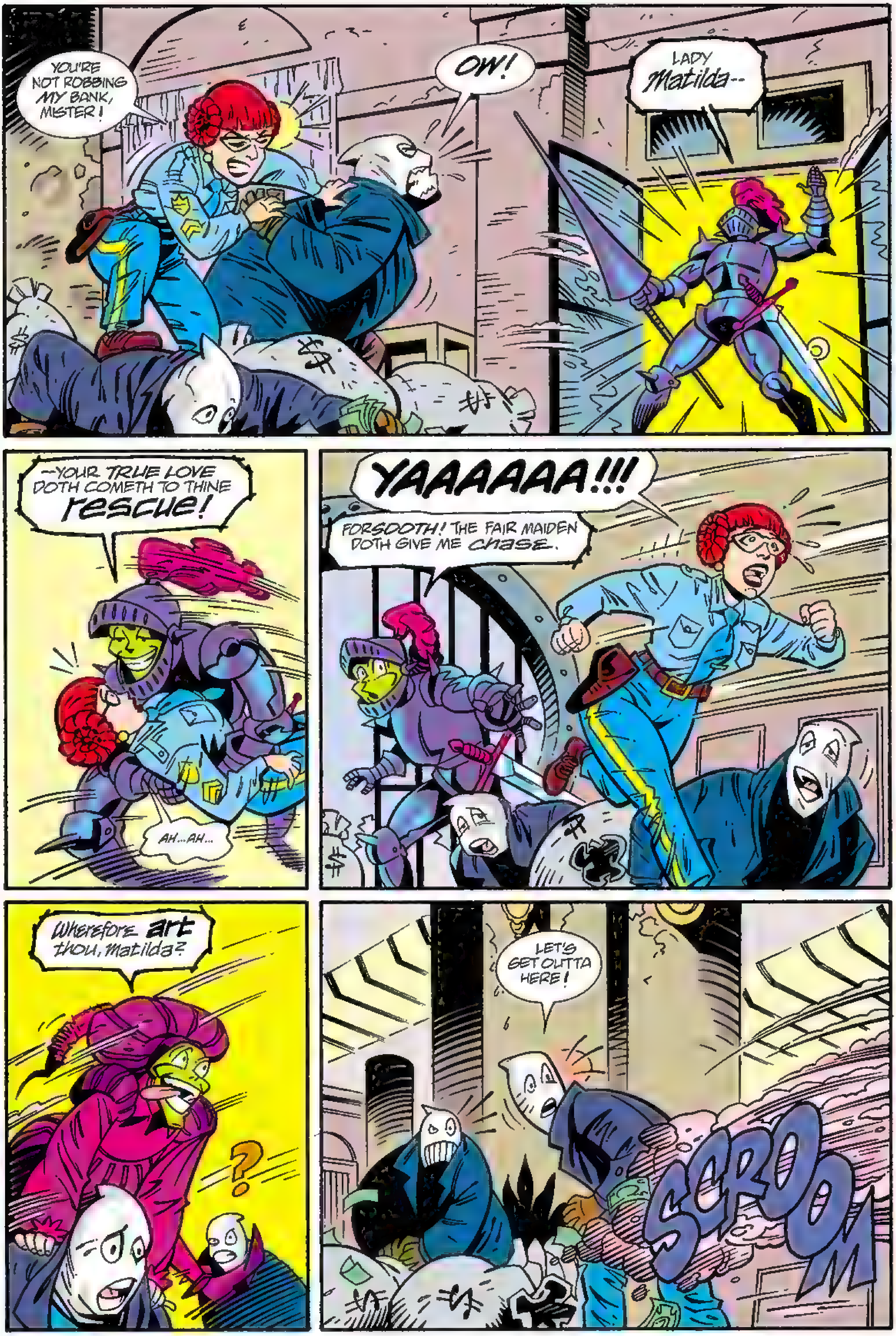

DON'T POP YOUR CURLERS, MEDUSA, BUT LOOK WHO'S BACK IN TOWN!
YAAA! NOT YOU AGAIN!
DID YA HEAR THE GOOD NEWS?
THE MISSUS AND I, WE'VE JUST HAD A BABY!
SO HAVE A CIGAR..
--OR TEN! ON ME!
MUMMF!

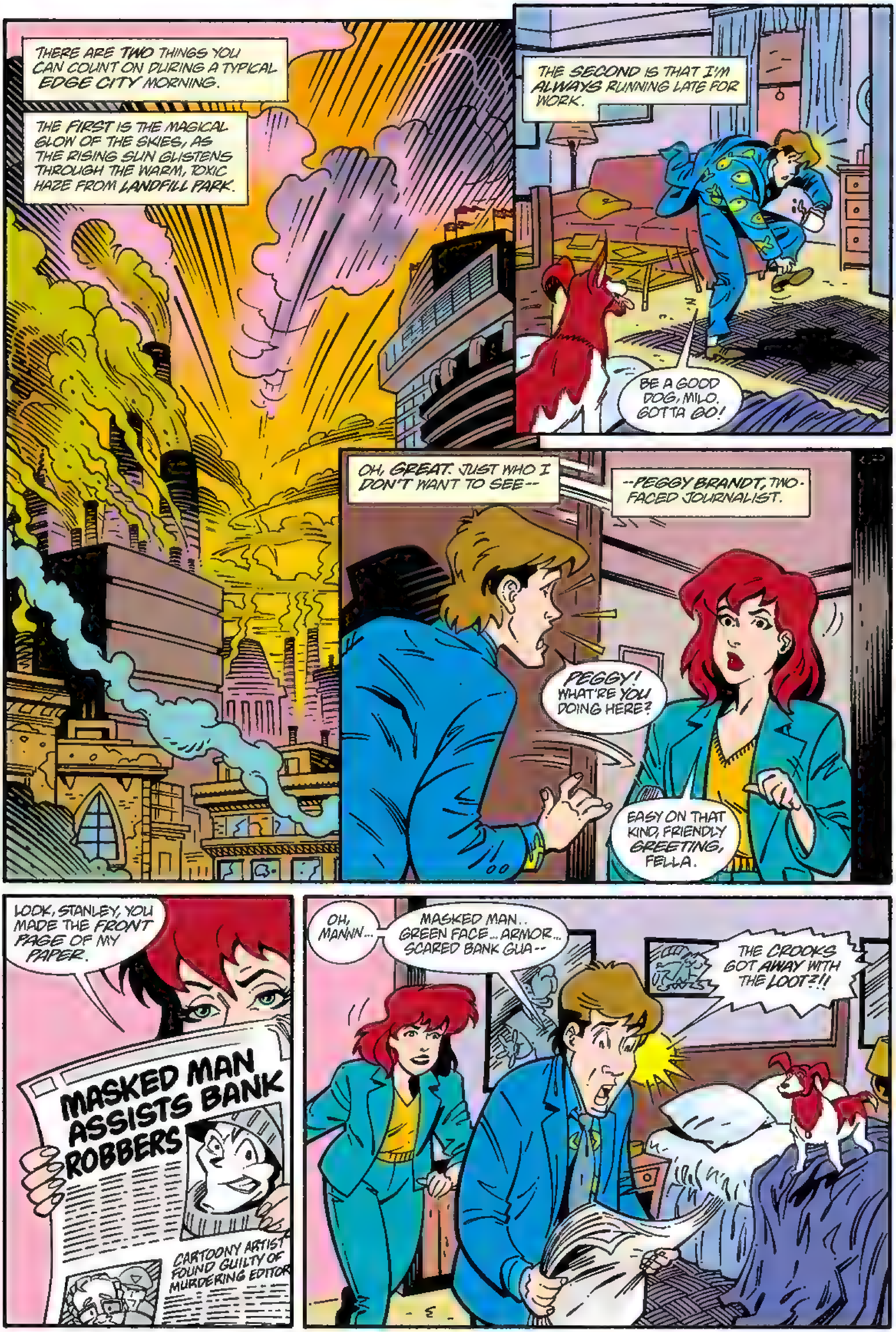

OH, BY THE WAY...
KEESH
S-S-S-S-SMOKIN'--
SPOOM!
--IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH!

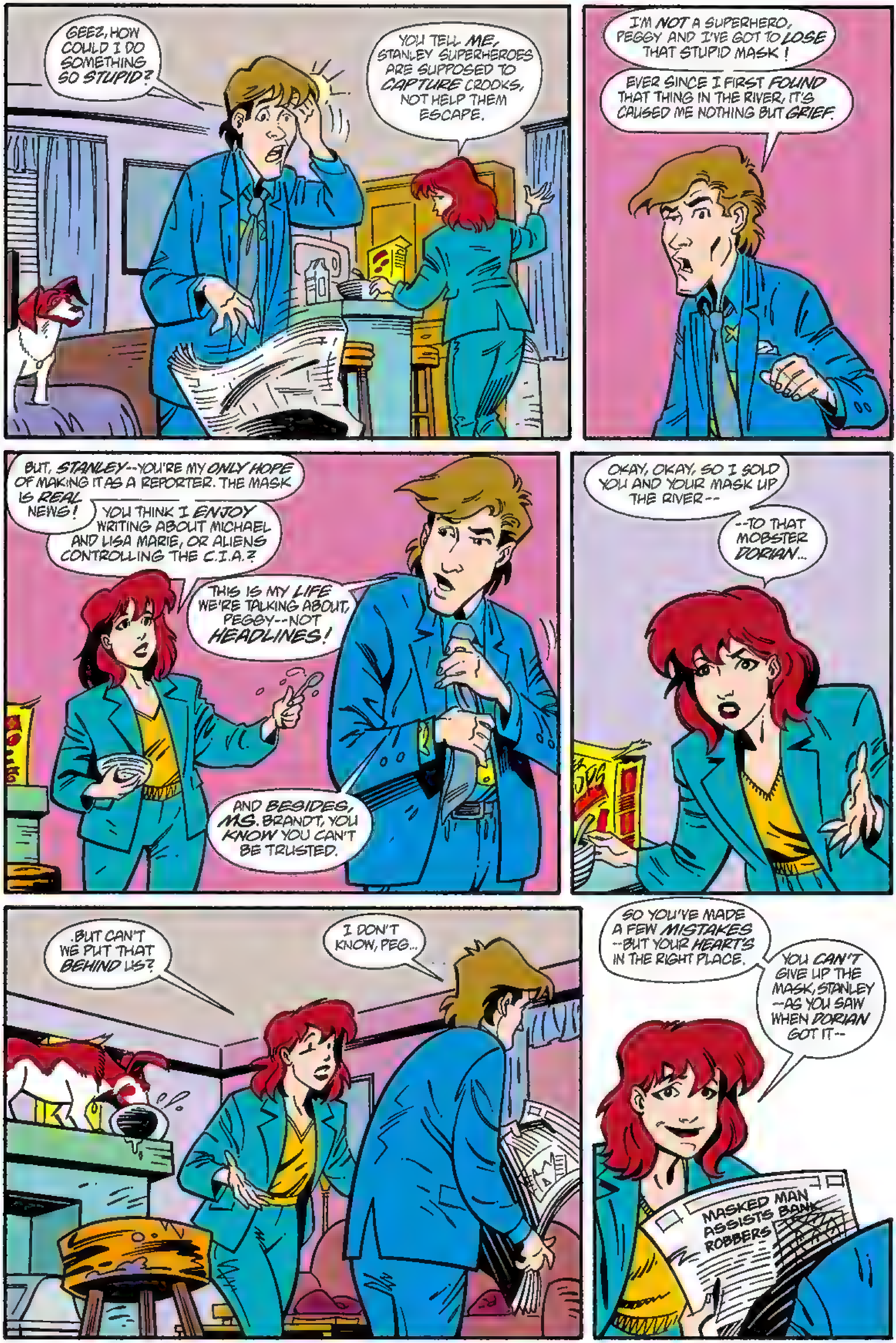

C'MON, C'MON...
DADDY, DADDY, DADDY!
are we there yet, daddy? Arewearewe??
WHU--?
GET OUT.
YOU FIRST!
EJECTOR BUTTON!
TCHK
EJECTOR BUTTON!

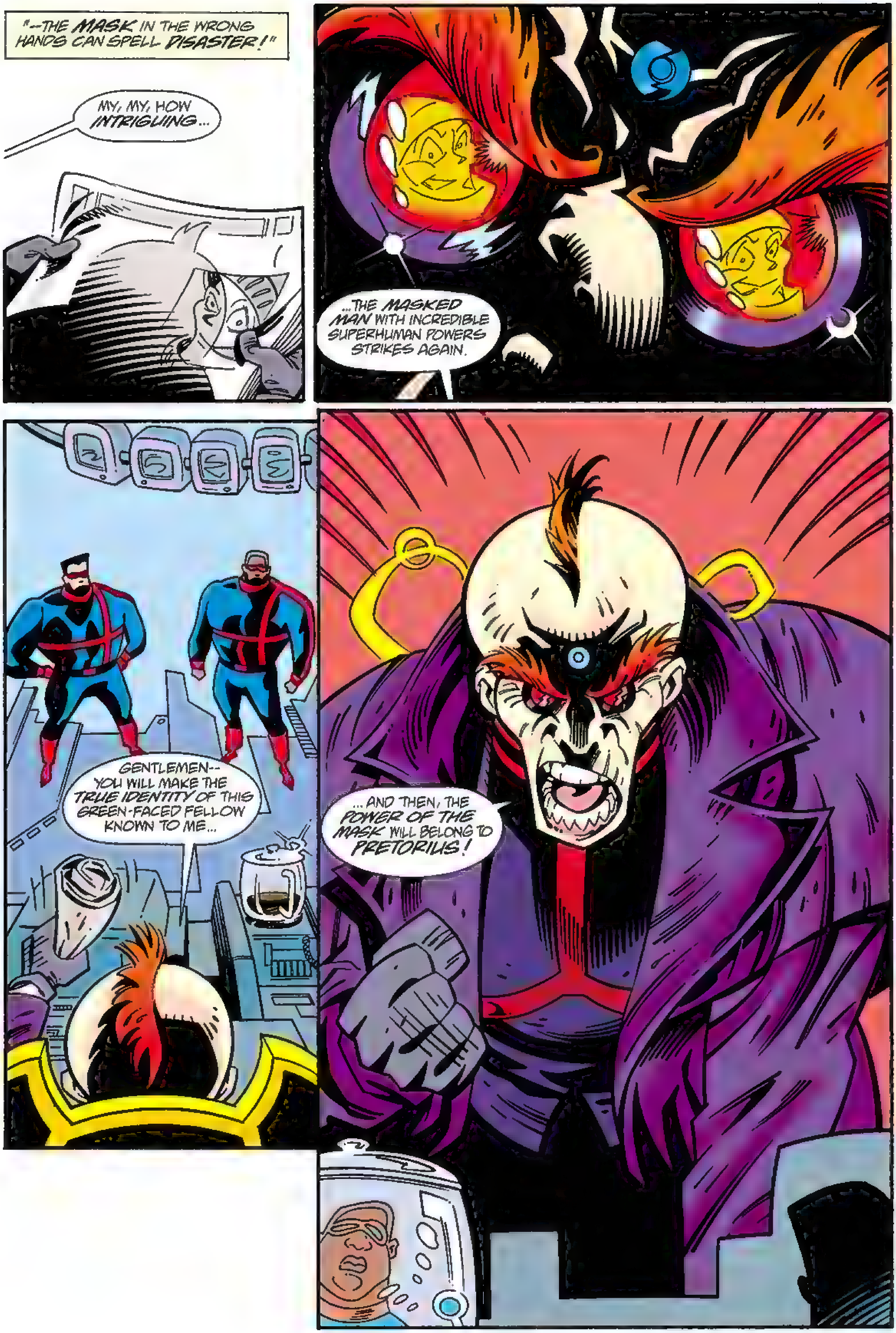

SPROINGGG
AIEEE
Raa Yoo Ga!
I GOT IT! I GOT IT!
STAND BACK--
--I GOT IT!
WUMPF

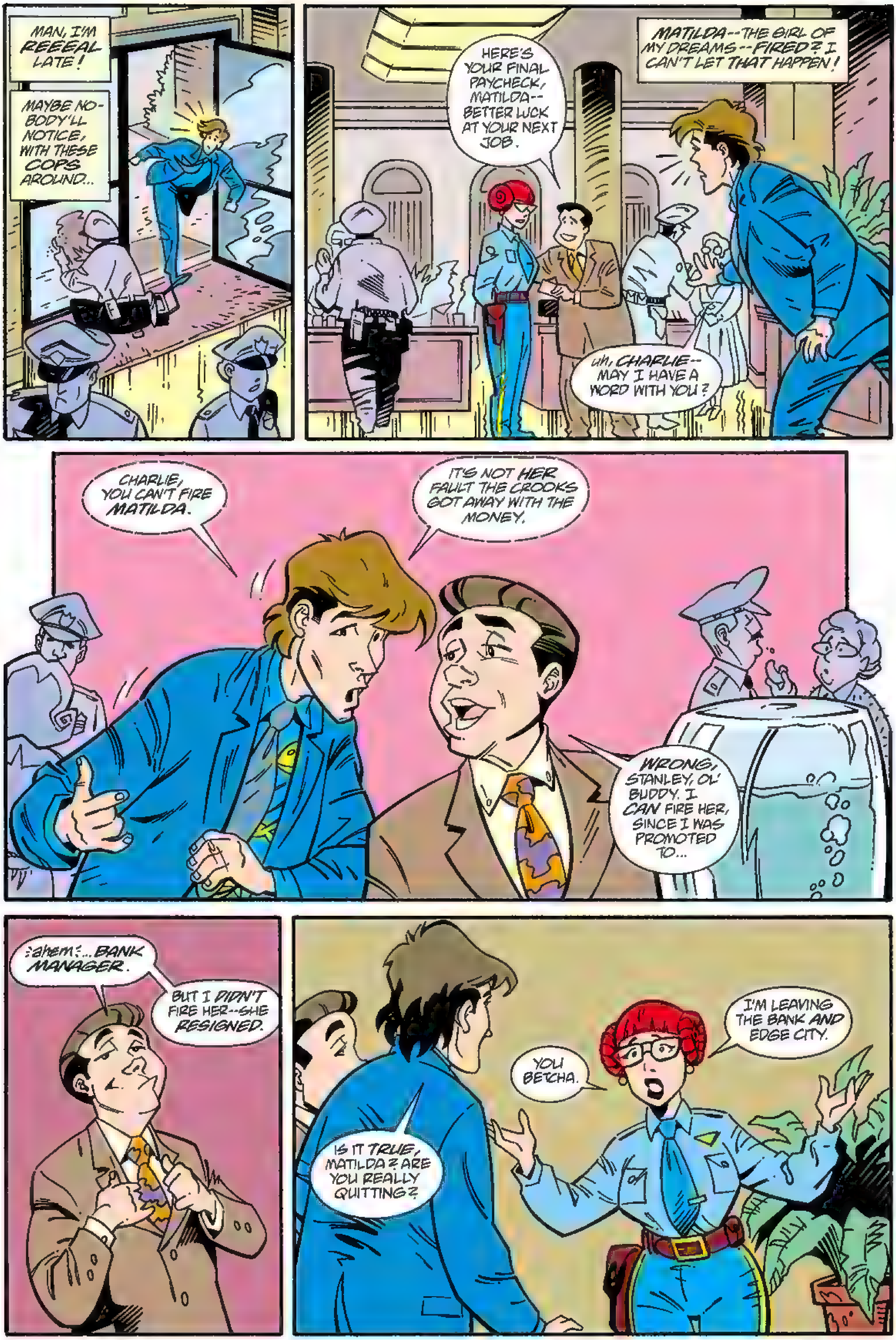

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU *ARE*, FREAK, BUT YOU'RE DEALIN' WITH A *BLACK BELT!*
I CAN *SEE* THAT--AND IT TOTALLY *CLASHES* WITH YOUR OUTFIT!
HI--
--YA!
WOO! WOO! JOHN WOO!
BE... *STILL!*
LOOK! I'M A *DOUGHNUT!*
LUCKY THERE'RE NO *COPS* AROUND!
N-NYAH!
HO-HUM...
NARCOLEPSY EPIDEMIC CATCHES EDGE CITY *NAPPING*.
FILM AT ELEVEN.

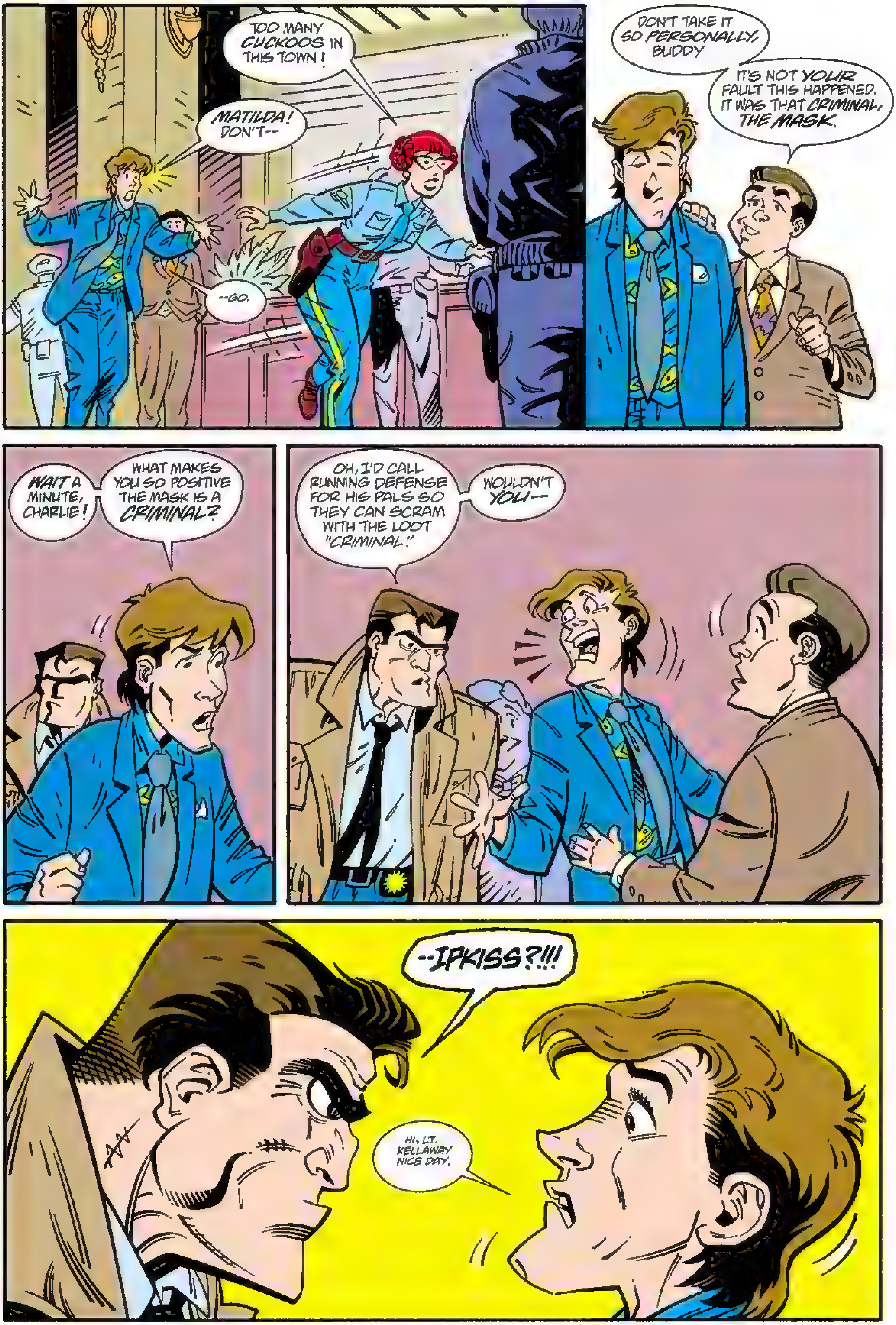

YOU'RE NOT ROBBING MY BANK, MISTER!
OW!
LADY Matilda--
--YOUR TRUE LOVE DOTH COMETH TO THINE rescue!
AH...AH...
YAAAAAA!!!
FORSOOTH! THE FAIR MAIDEN DOTH GIVE ME chase.
Wherefore art thou, Matilda?
?
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
SCROOM

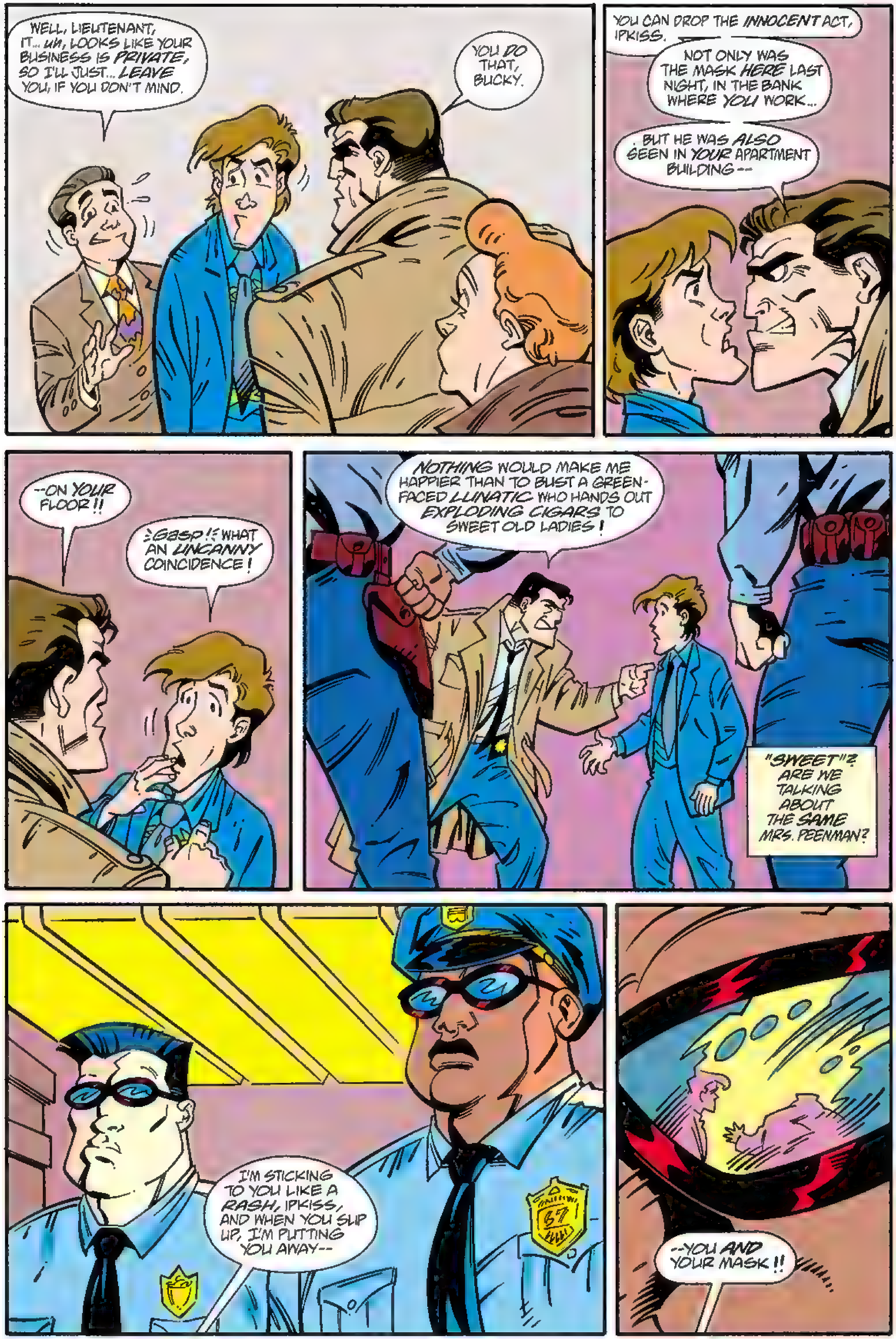

THERE ARE TWO THINGS YOU CAN COUNT ON DURING A TYPICAL EDGE CITY MORNING.
THE FIRST IS THE MAGICAL GLOW OF THE SKIES, AS THE RISING SUN GLISTENS THROUGH THE WARM, TOXIC HAZE FROM LANDFILL PARK.
THE SECOND IS THAT I'M ALWAYS RUNNING LATE FOR WORK.
BE A GOOD DOG, MILO. GOTTA GO!
OH, GREAT. JUST WHO I DON'T WANT TO SEE--
--PEGGY BRANDT, TWO-FACED JOURNALIST.
PEGGY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
EASY ON THAT KIND, FRIENDLY GREETING, FELLA.
LOOK, STANLEY, YOU MADE THE FRONT PAGE OF MY PAPER.
MASKED MAN ASSISTS BANK ROBBERS
CARTOONY ARTIST FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING EDITOR
OH, MANNN...
MASKED MAN.. GREEN FACE... ARMOR... SCARED BANK GUA--
THE CROOKS GOT AWAY WITH THE LOOT?!!

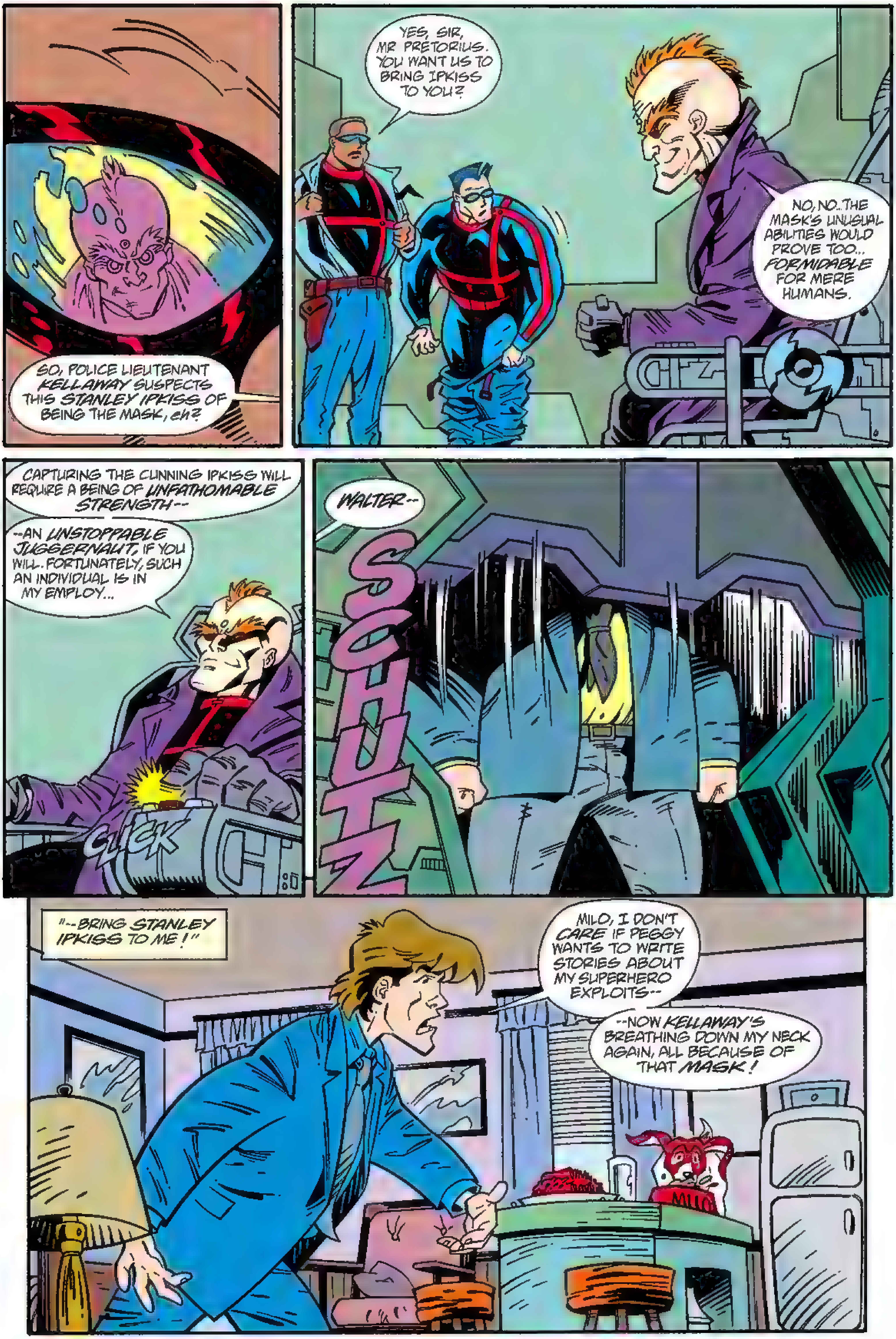

GEEZ, HOW COULD I DO SOMETHING SO STUPID?
YOU TELL ME, STANLEY. SUPERHEROES ARE SUPPOSED TO CAPTURE CROOKS, NOT HELP THEM ESCAPE.
I'M NOT A SUPERHERO, PEGGY AND I'VE GOT TO LOSE THAT STUPID MASK!
EVER SINCE I FIRST FOUND THAT THING IN THE RIVER, IT'S CAUSED ME NOTHING BUT GRIEF.
BUT, STANLEY--YOU'RE MY ONLY HOPE OF MAKING IT AS A REPORTER. THE MASK IS REAL NEWS!
YOU THINK I ENJOY WRITING ABOUT MICHAEL AND LISA MARIE, OR ALIENS CONTROLLING THE C.I.A.?
THIS IS MY LIFE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, PEGGY--NOT HEADLINES!
AND BESIDES, MS. BRANDT, YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T BE TRUSTED.
OKAY, OKAY, SO I SOLD YOU AND YOUR MASK UP THE RIVER--
--TO THAT MOBSTER DORIAN...
...BUT CAN'T WE PUT THAT BEHIND US?
I DON'T KNOW, PEG...
SO YOU'VE MADE A FEW MISTAKES --BUT YOUR HEART'S IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
YOU CAN'T GIVE UP THE MASK, STANLEY --AS YOU SAW WHEN DORIAN GOT IT--
MASKED MAN ASSISTS BANK ROBBERS

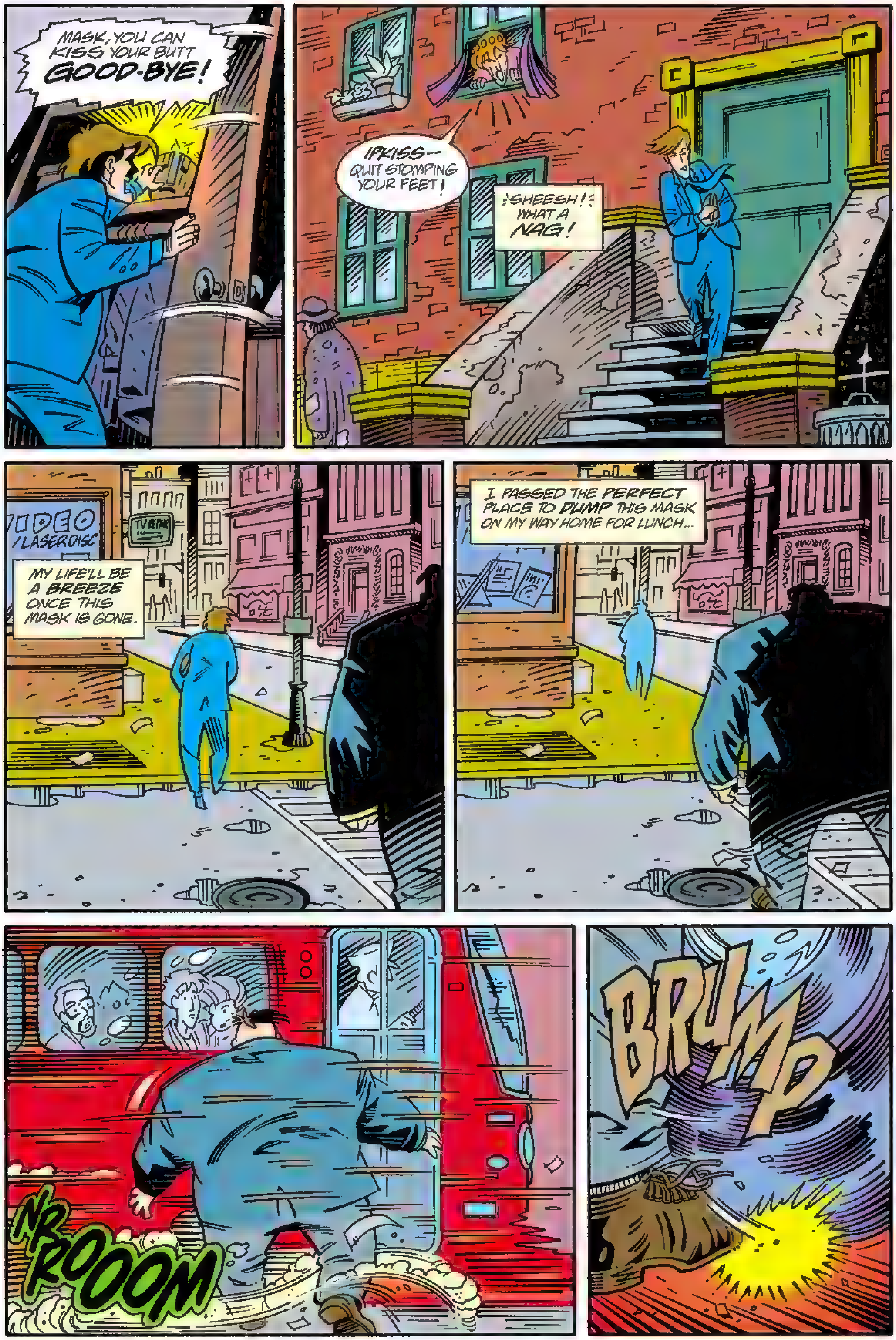

"--THE MASK IN THE WRONG HANDS CAN SPELL DISASTER!"
MY, MY, HOW INTRIGUING...
...THE MASKED MAN WITH INCREDIBLE SUPERHUMAN POWERS STRIKES AGAIN.
GENTLEMEN-- YOU WILL MAKE THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THIS GREEN-FACED FELLOW KNOWN TO ME...
...AND THEN, THE POWER OF THE MASK WILL BELONG TO PRETORIUS!

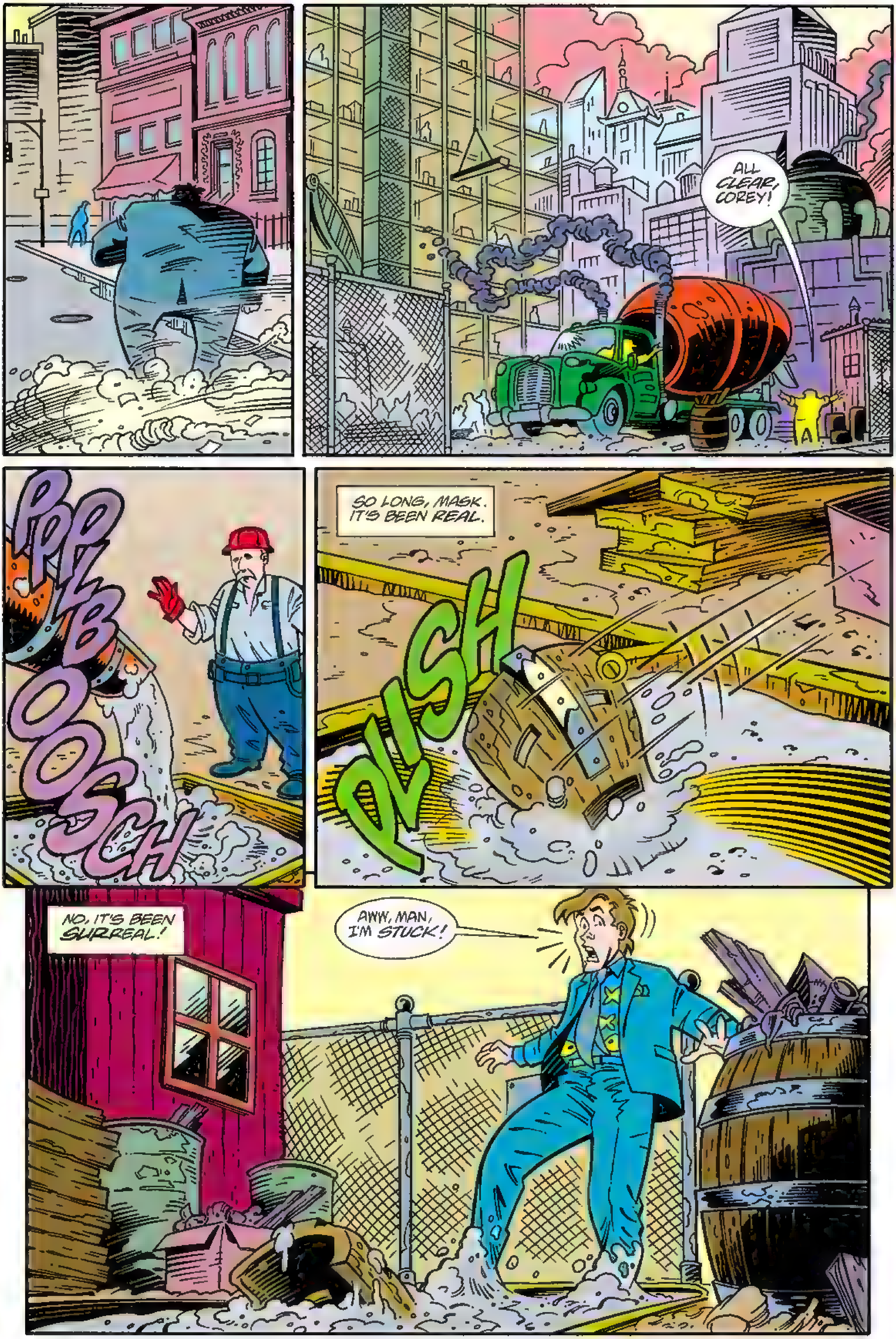

MAN, I'M REEEAL LATE!
MAYBE NOBODY'LL NOTICE, WITH THESE COPS AROUND...
HERE'S YOUR FINAL PAYCHECK, MATILDA-- BETTER LUCK AT YOUR NEXT JOB.
MATILDA--THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS--FIRED?! I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!
uh, CHARLIE-- MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?
CHARLIE, YOU CAN'T FIRE MATILDA.
IT'S NOT HER FAULT THE CROOKS GOT AWAY WITH THE MONEY.
WRONG, STANLEY, OL' BUDDY. I CAN FIRE HER, SINCE I WAS PROMOTED TO...
:ahem:... BANK MANAGER.
BUT I DIDN'T FIRE HER--SHE RESIGNED.
IS IT TRUE, MATILDA? ARE YOU REALLY QUITTING?
YOU BETCHA.
I'M LEAVING THE BANK AND EDGE CITY.

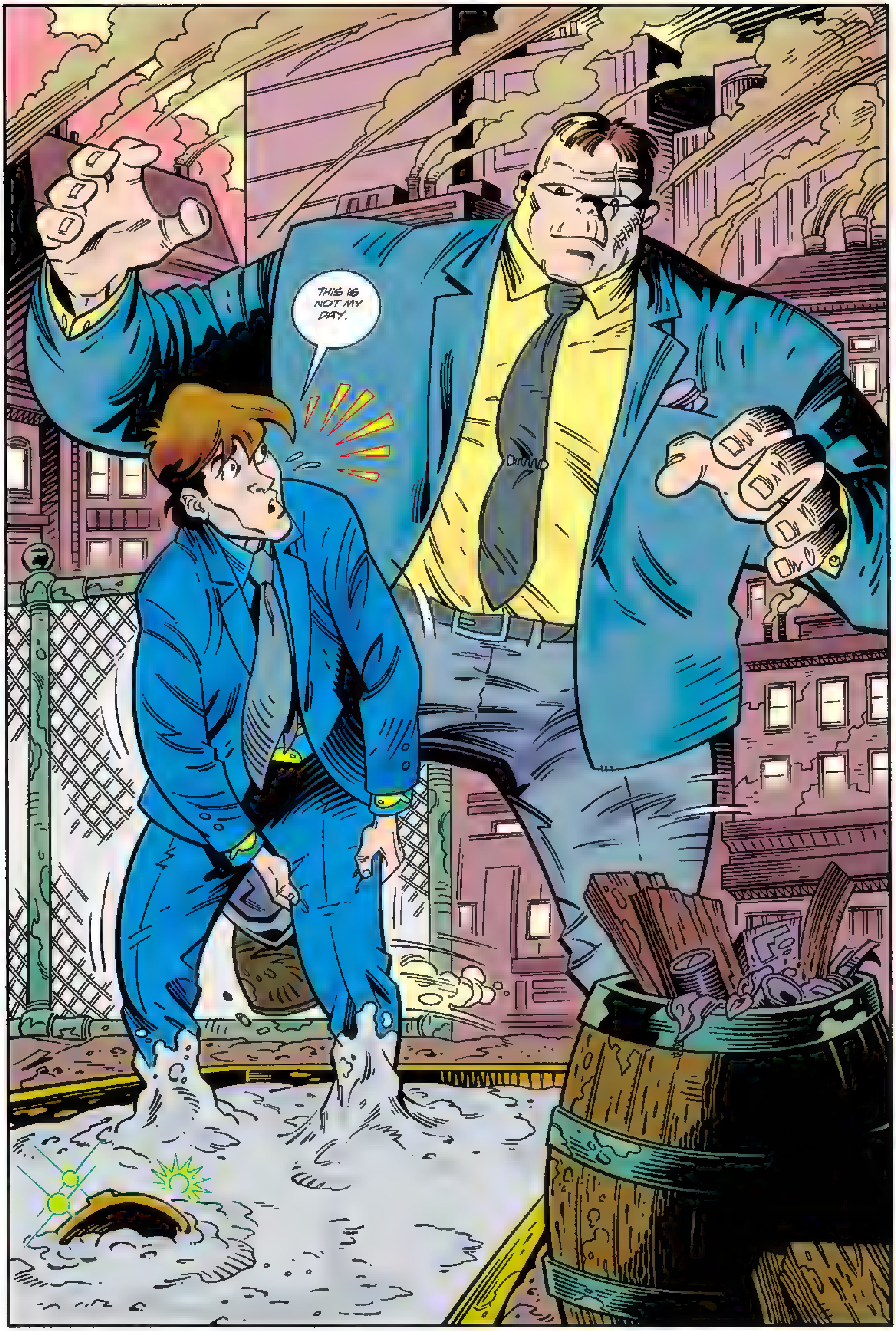

TOO MANY CUCKOOS IN THIS TOWN!
MATILDA! DON'T--
--GO.
DON'T TAKE IT SO PERSONALLY, BUDDY
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT THIS HAPPENED. IT WAS THAT CRIMINAL, THE MASK.
WAIT A MINUTE, CHARLIE!
WHAT MAKES YOU SO POSITIVE THE MASK IS A CRIMINAL?
OH, I'D CALL RUNNING DEFENSE FOR HIS PALS SO THEY CAN SCRAM WITH THE LOOT "CRIMINAL."
WOULDN'T YOU--
--IPKISS?!!!
HI, LT. KELLAWAY NICE DAY.


WELL, LIEUTENANT, IT... *uh,* LOOKS LIKE YOUR BUSINESS IS *PRIVATE,* SO I'LL JUST... *LEAVE* YOU, IF YOU DON'T MIND.
YOU *DO* THAT, BUCKY.
YOU CAN DROP THE *INNOCENT* ACT, IPKISS.
NOT ONLY WAS THE MASK *HERE* LAST NIGHT, IN THE BANK WHERE *YOU* WORK...
...BUT HE WAS *ALSO* SEEN IN *YOUR* APARTMENT BUILDING--
--ON *YOUR* FLOOR!!
Gasp! WHAT AN *UNCANNY* COINCIDENCE!
NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER THAN TO BUST A GREEN-FACED *LUNATIC* WHO HANDS OUT *EXPLODING CIGARS* TO SWEET OLD LADIES!
"SWEET"? ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THE *SAME* MRS. PEENMAN?
I'M STICKING TO YOU LIKE A *RASH,* IPKISS, AND WHEN YOU SLIP UP, I'M PUTTING YOU AWAY--
--YOU *AND* YOUR MASK!!


SO, POLICE LIEUTENANT KELLAWAY SUSPECTS THIS STANLEY IPKISS OF BEING THE MASK, eh?
YES, SIR, MR PRETORIUS. YOU WANT US TO BRING IPKISS TO YOU?
NO, NO. THE MASK'S UNUSUAL ABILITIES WOULD PROVE TOO... FORMIDABLE FOR MERE HUMANS.
CAPTURING THE CUNNING IPKISS WILL REQUIRE A BEING OF UNFATHOMABLE STRENGTH--
--AN UNSTOPPABLE JUGGERNAUT, IF YOU WILL. FORTUNATELY, SUCH AN INDIVIDUAL IS IN MY EMPLOY...
CLICK
WALTER--
SCHUNN
"--BRING STANLEY IPKISS TO ME!"
MILO, I DON'T CARE IF PEGGY WANTS TO WRITE STORIES ABOUT MY SUPERHERO EXPLOITS--
--NOW KELLAWAY'S BREATHING DOWN MY NECK AGAIN, ALL BECAUSE OF THAT MASK!
MILO


MASK, YOU CAN KISS YOUR BUTT GOOD-BYE!
IPKISS-- QUIT STOMPING YOUR FEET!
SHEESH! WHAT A NAG!
IDEO /LASERDISC
MY LIFE'LL BE A BREEZE ONCE THIS MASK IS GONE.
I PASSED THE PERFECT PLACE TO DUMP THIS MASK ON MY WAY HOME FOR LUNCH...
NRROOOM
BRUMP


ALL CLEAR, COREY!
PPPLBOOOSCH
SO LONG, MASK. IT'S BEEN REAL.
PLISH
NO, IT'S BEEN SURREAL!
AWW, MAN, I'M STUCK!


THIS IS NOT MY DAY.

BIG MASK ATTACK!
B.T.

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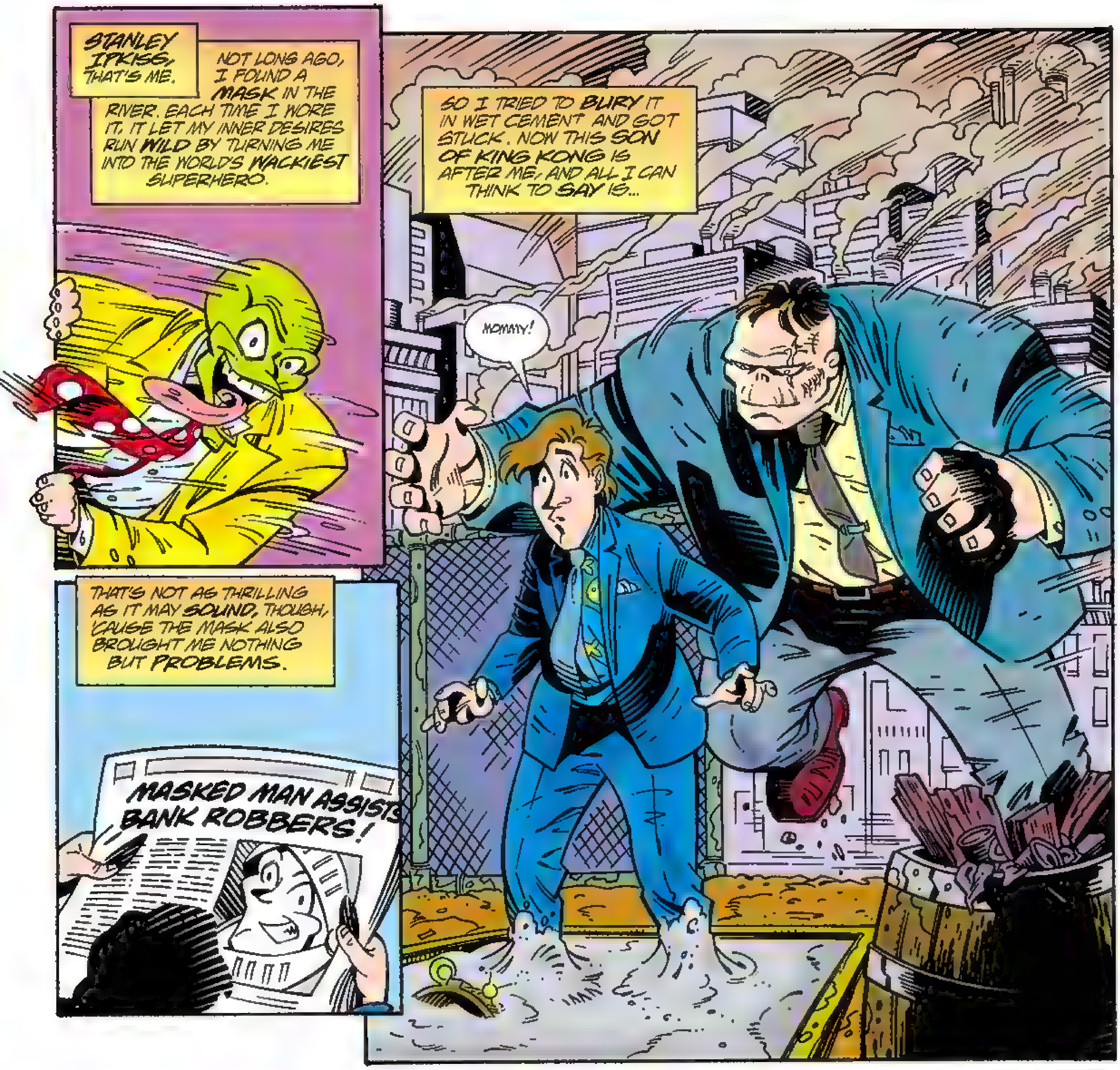
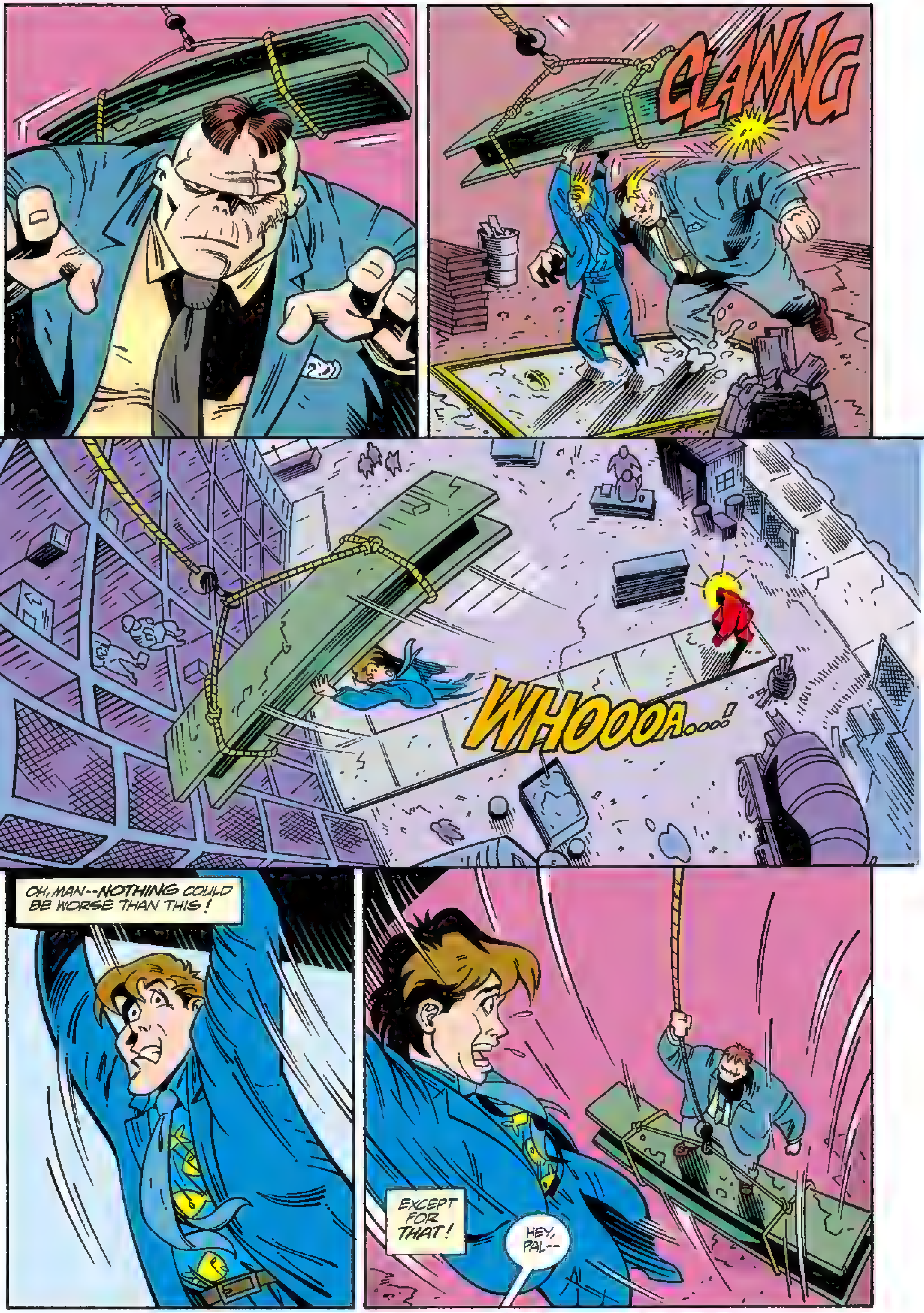
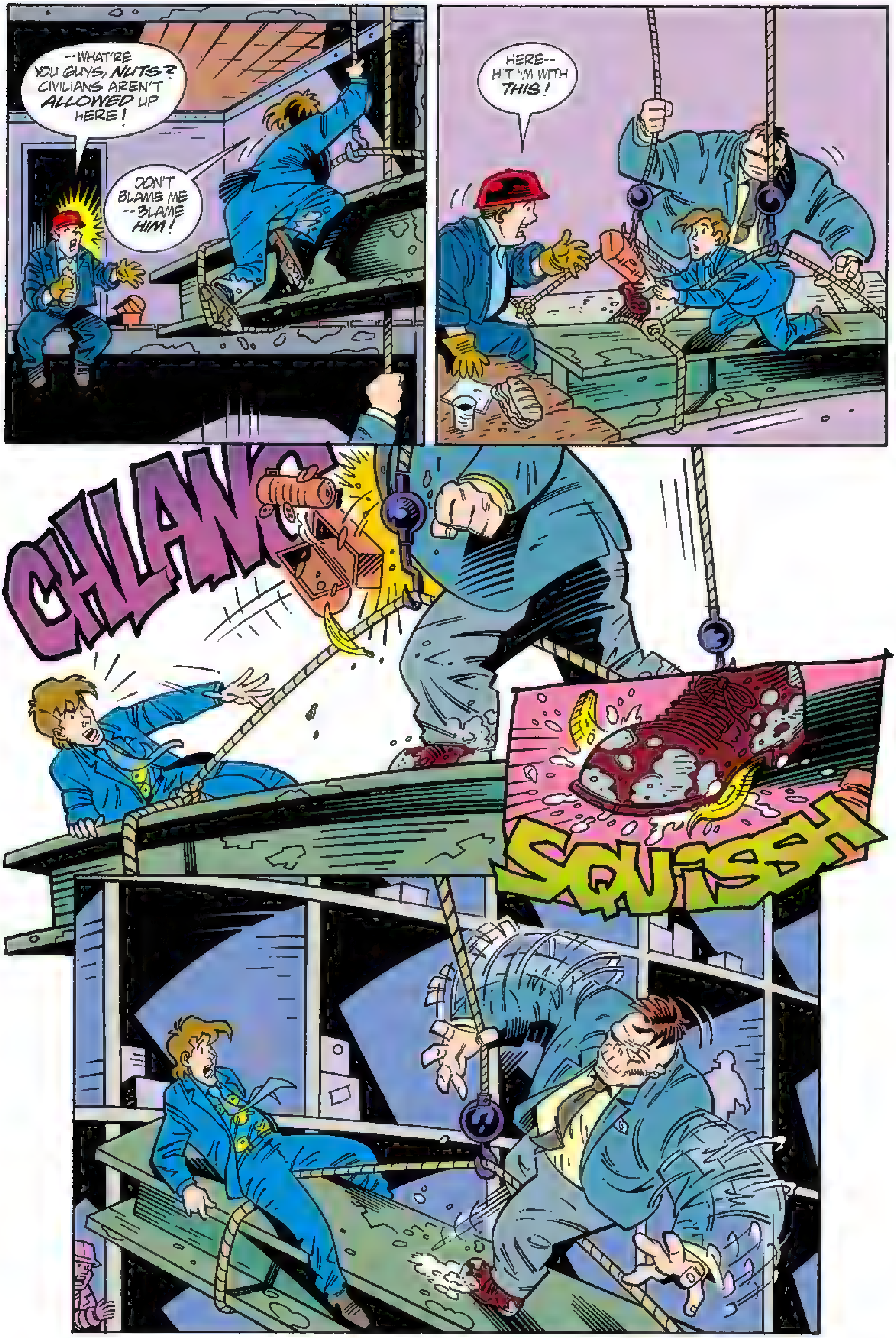
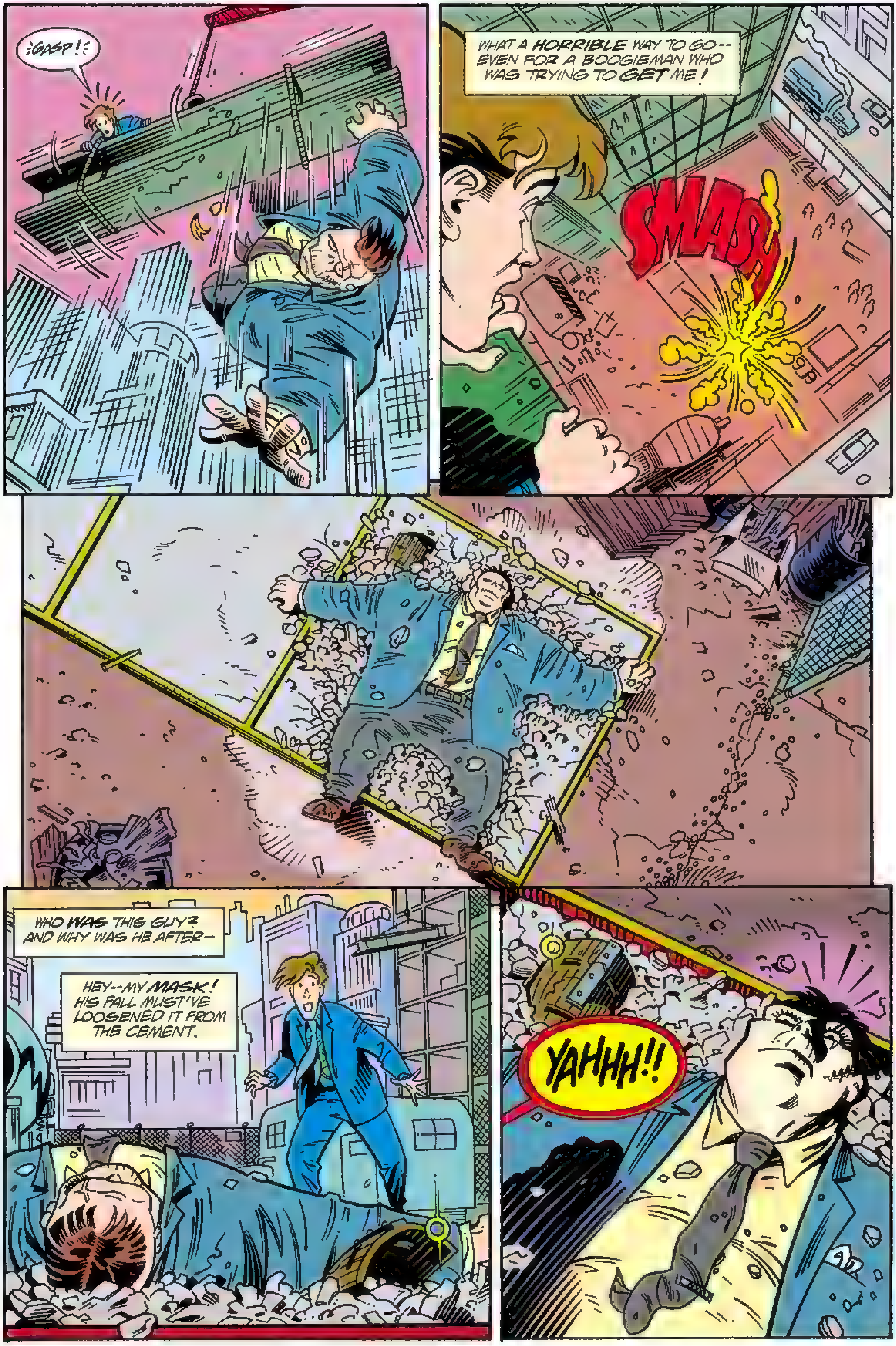
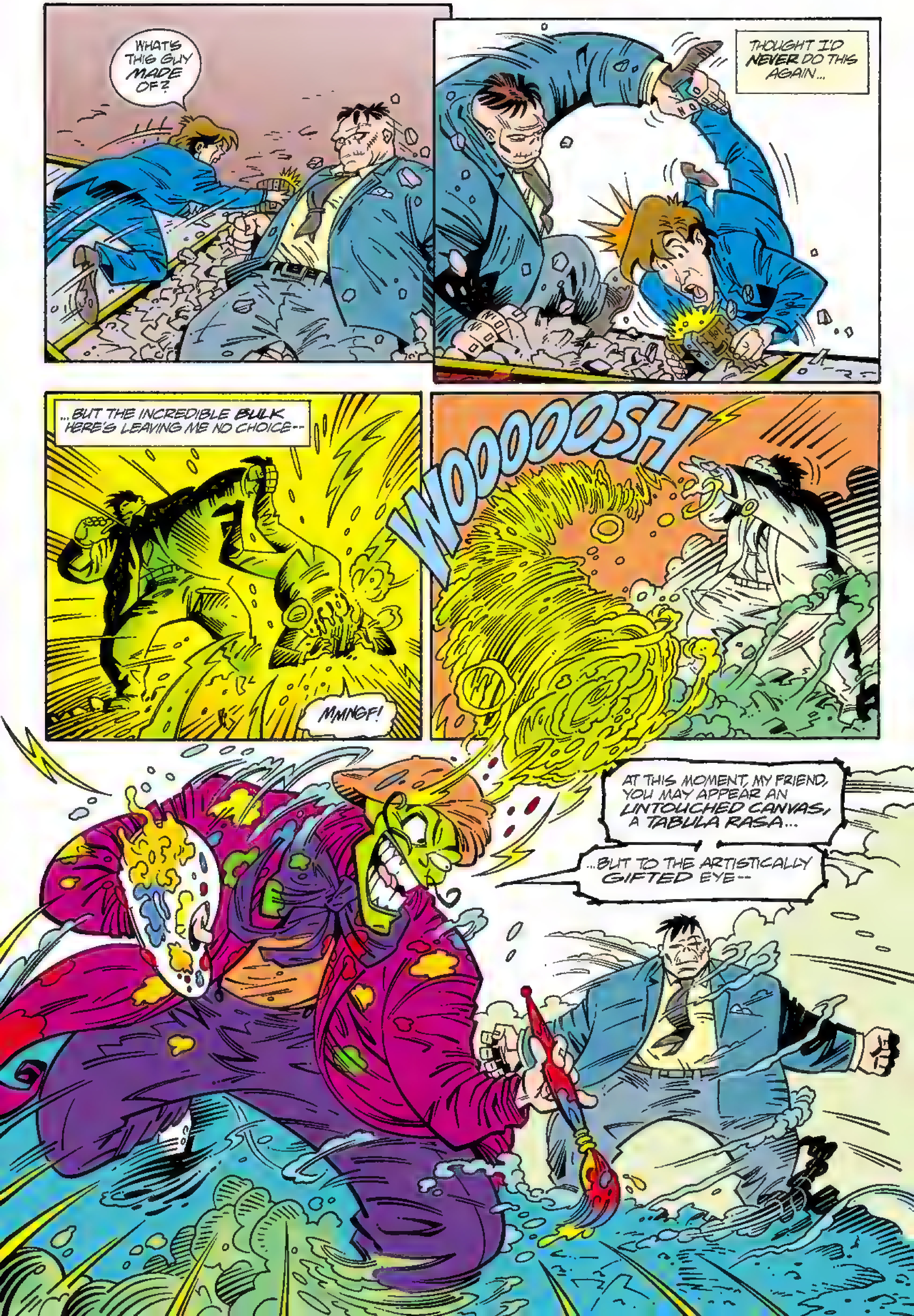

STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
NOT LONG AGO, I FOUND A MASK IN THE RIVER. EACH TIME I WORE IT, IT LET MY INNER DESIRES RUN WILD BY TURNING ME INTO THE WORLD'S WACKIEST SUPERHERO.
THAT'S NOT AS THRILLING AS IT MAY SOUND, THOUGH, 'CAUSE THE MASK ALSO BROUGHT ME NOTHING BUT PROBLEMS.
MASKED MAN ASSISTS BANK ROBBERS!
SO I TRIED TO BURY IT IN WET CEMENT AND GOT STUCK. NOW THIS SON OF KING KONG IS AFTER ME, AND ALL I CAN THINK TO SAY IS...
MOMMY!

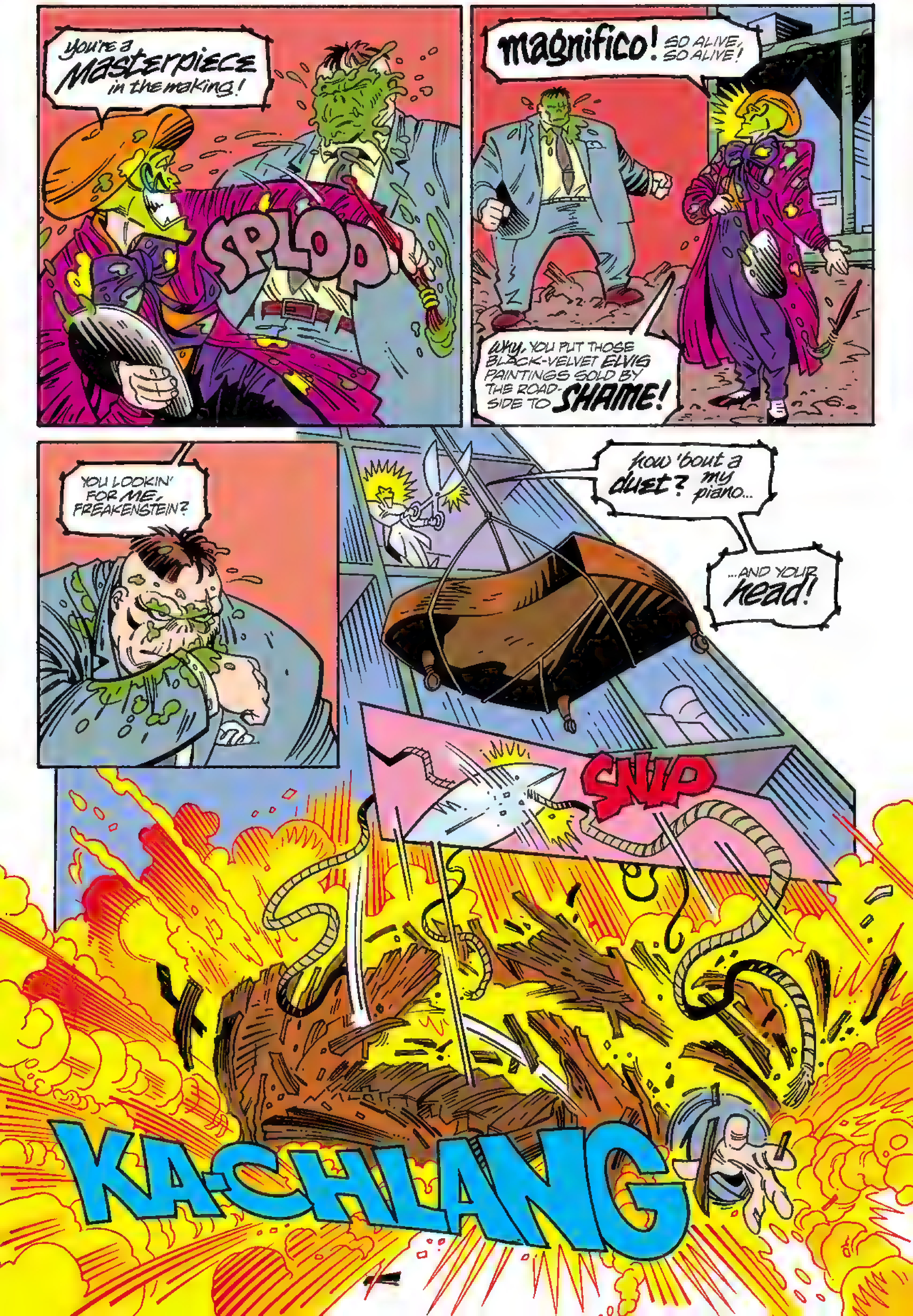
BIG MASK ATTACK!

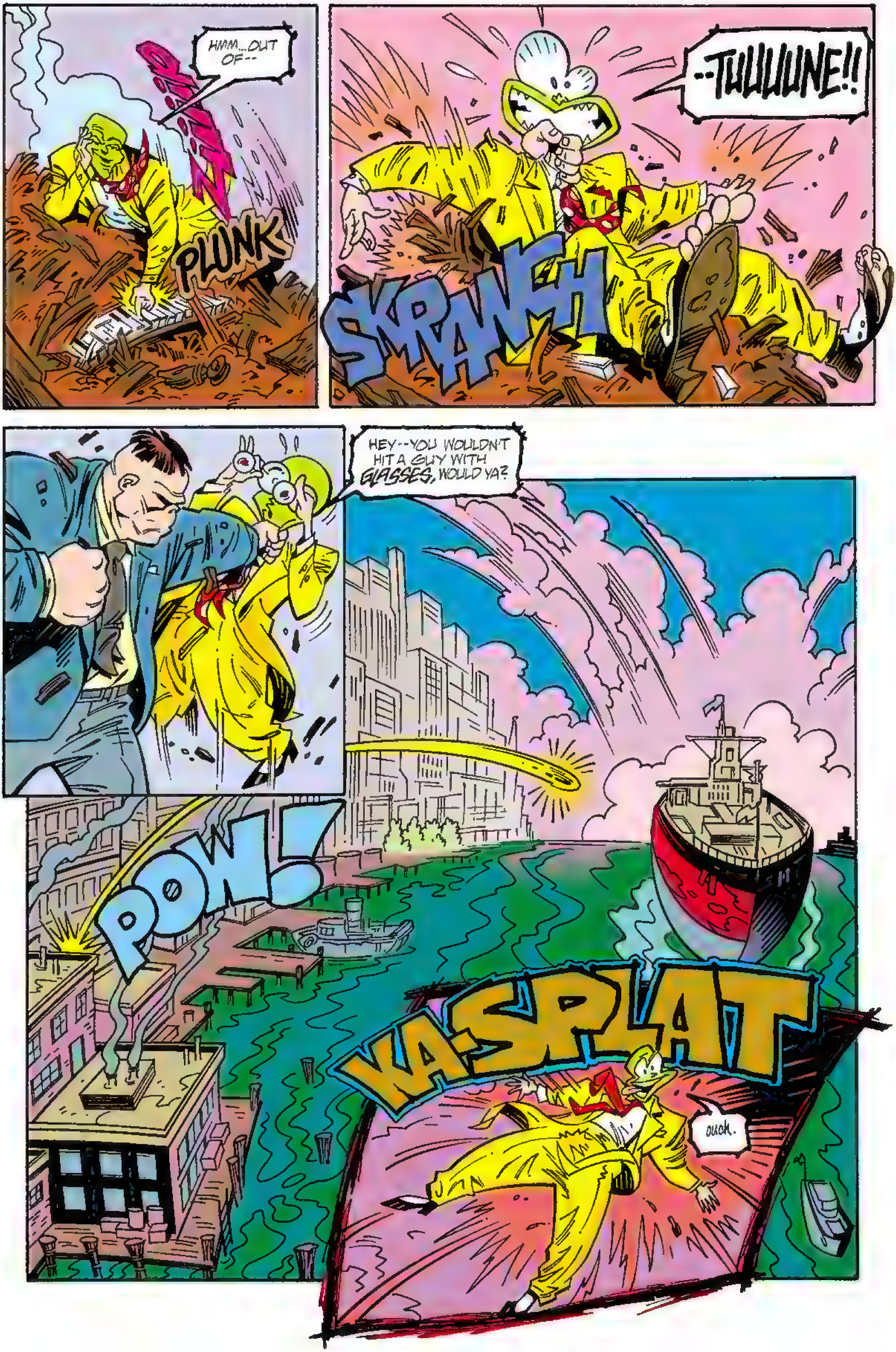

CLANNG
WHOOOA...!
OH, MAN--NOTHING COULD BE WORSE THAN THIS!
EXCEPT FOR THAT!
HEY, PAL--

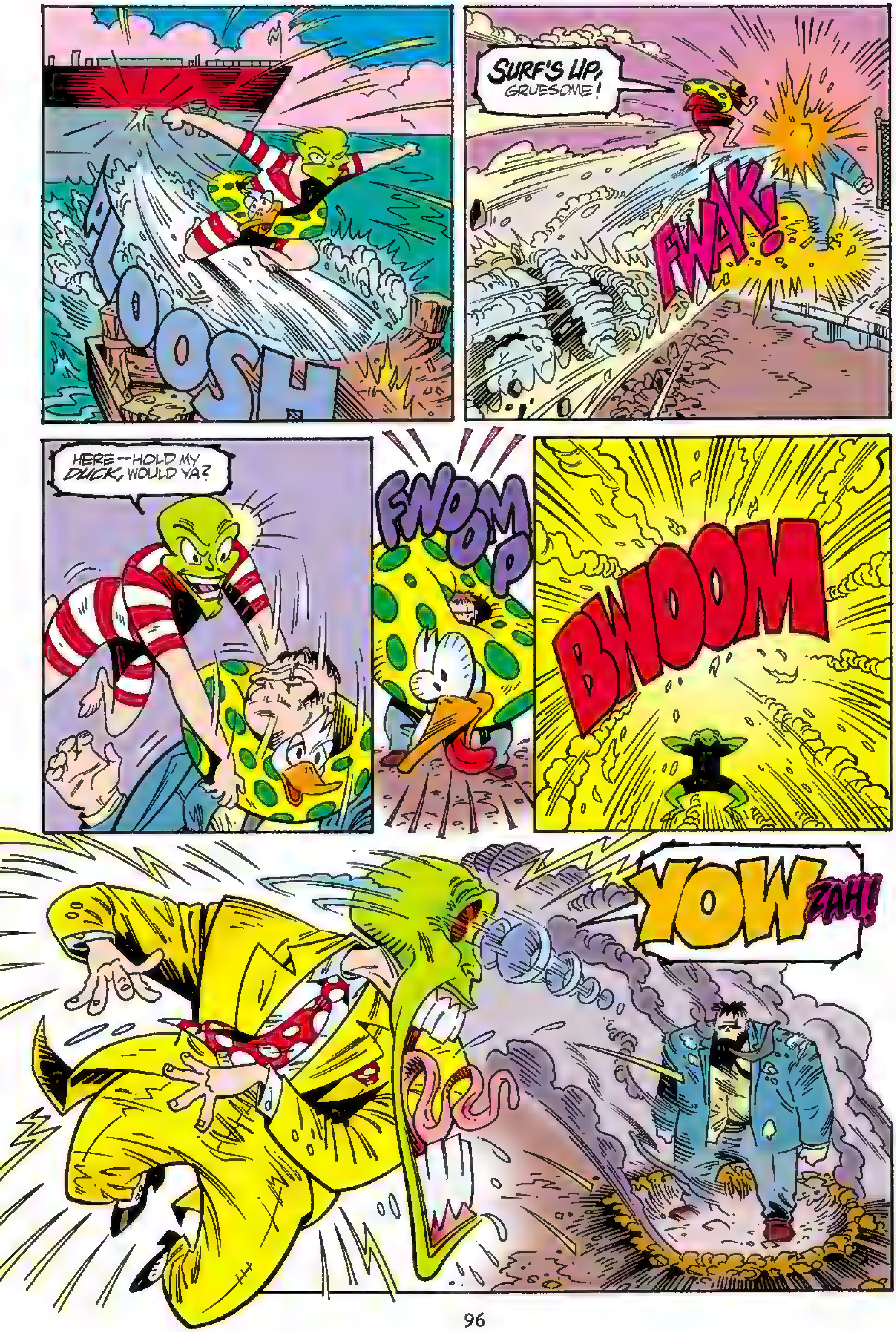

--WHAT'RE YOU GUYS, NUTS? CIVILIANS AREN'T ALLOWED UP HERE!
DON'T BLAME ME --BLAME HIM!
HERE-- HIT 'IM WITH THIS!
CHLANG
SQUISH

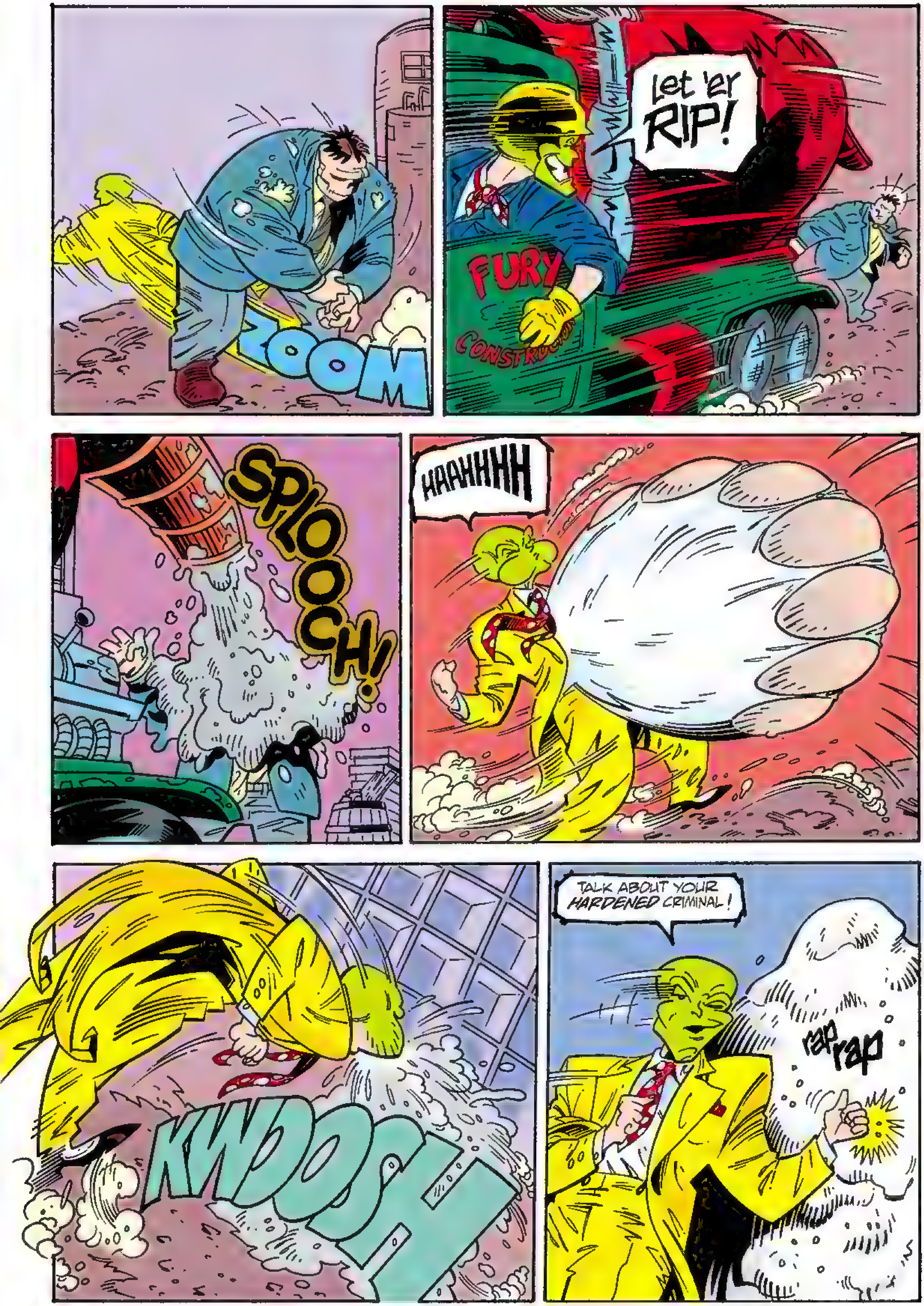

GASP!
WHAT A HORRIBLE WAY TO GO-- EVEN FOR A BOOGIEMAN WHO WAS TRYING TO GET ME!
SMASH
WHO WAS THIS GUY? AND WHY WAS HE AFTER--
HEY--MY MASK! HIS FALL MUST'VE LOOSENED IT FROM THE CEMENT.
YAHHH!!

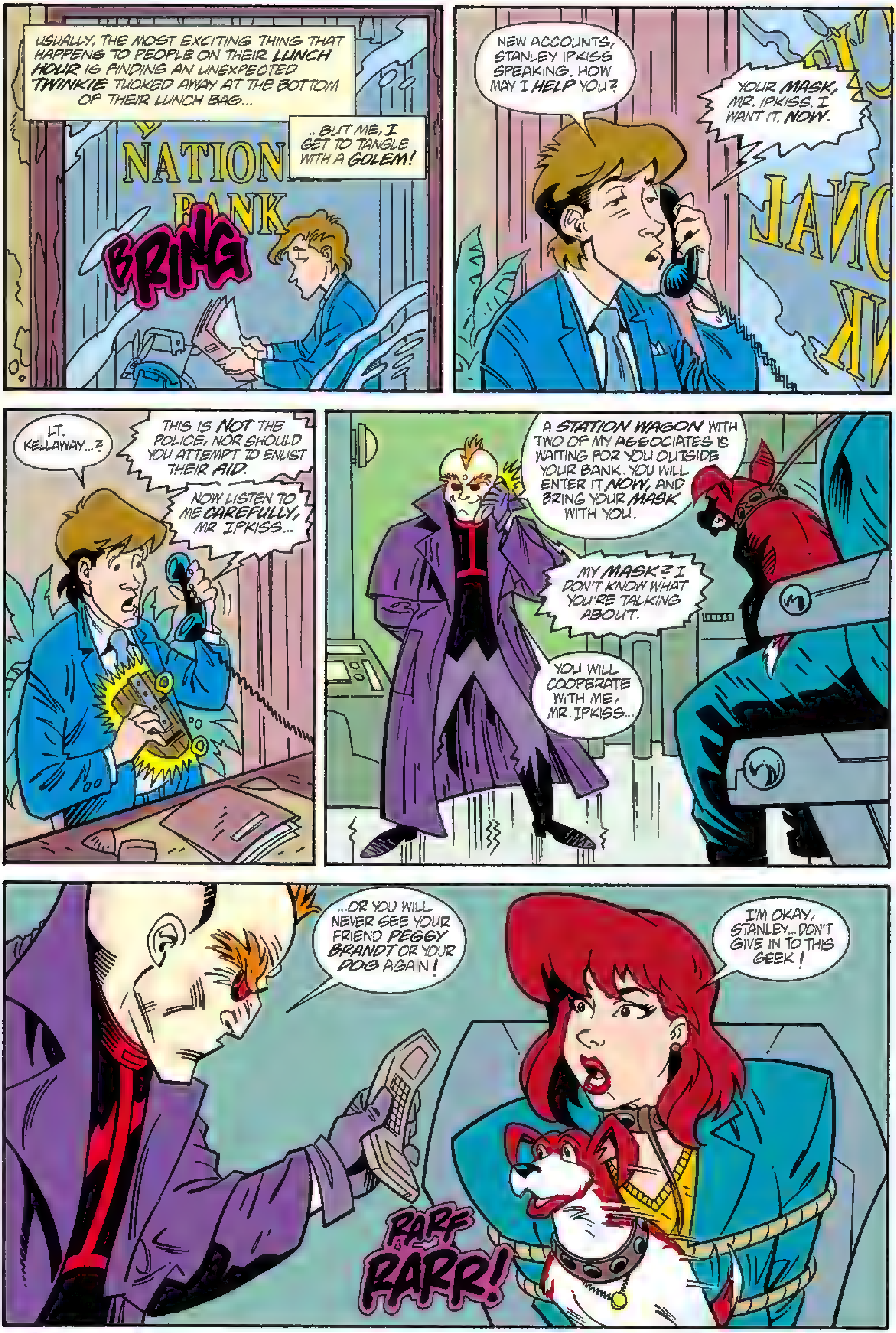

WHAT'S THIS GUY *MADE* OF?
THOUGHT I'D *NEVER* DO THIS AGAIN...
...BUT THE INCREDIBLE *BULK* HERE'S LEAVING ME NO CHOICE--
MMNGF!
WOOOOOOSH
AT THIS MOMENT, MY FRIEND, YOU MAY APPEAR AN *UNTOUCHED CANVAS*, A *TABULA RASA*...
...BUT TO THE ARTISTICALLY *GIFTED* EYE--

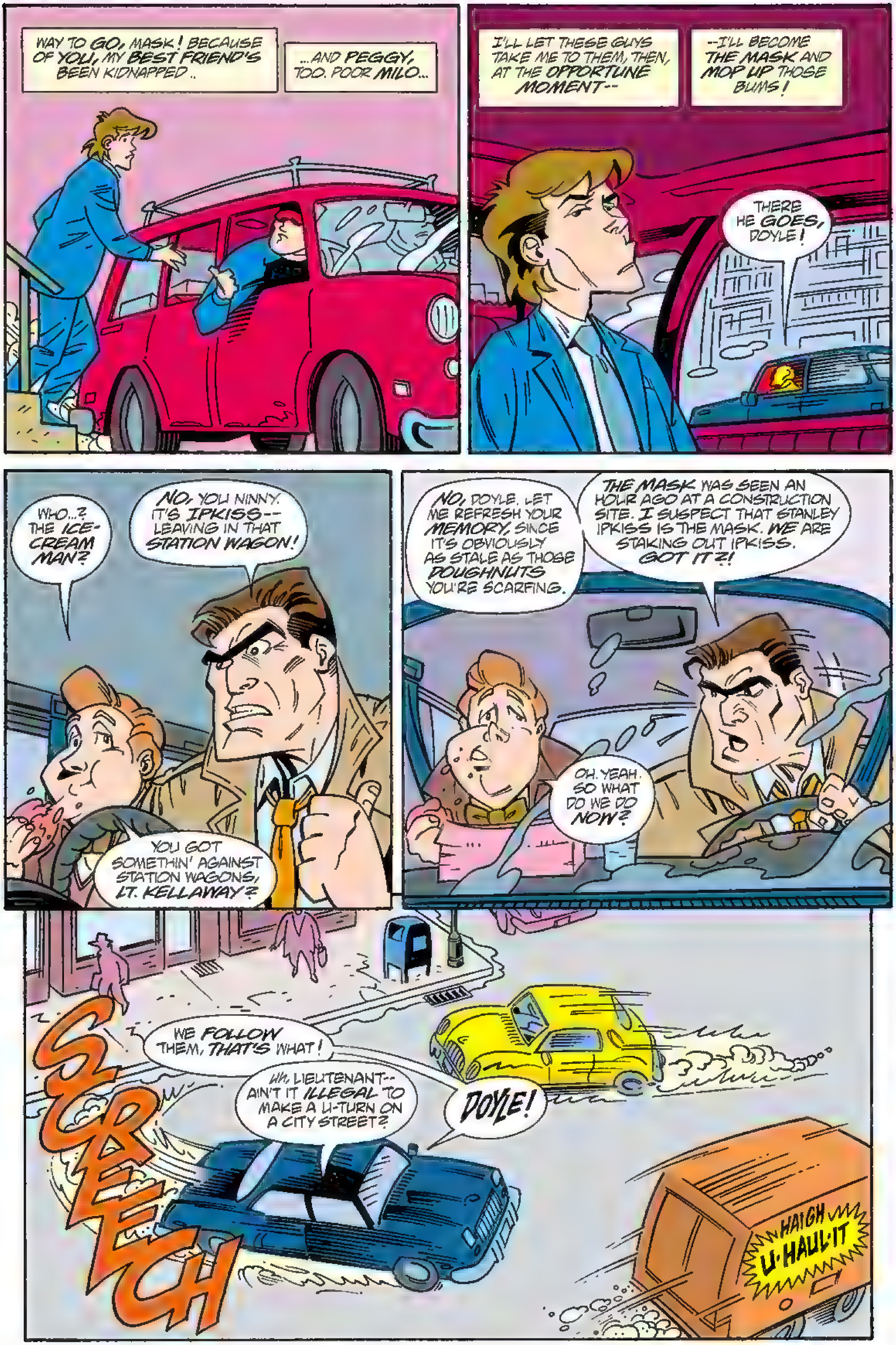

you're a Masterpiece in the making!
SPLOP
magnifico! SO ALIVE, SO ALIVE!
Why, YOU PUT THOSE BLACK-VELVET ELVIS PAINTINGS SOLD BY THE ROAD-SIDE TO SHAME!
YOU LOOKIN' FOR ME, FREAKENSTEIN?
how 'bout a duet? my piano...
...AND YOUR head!
SNIP
KA-CHLANG

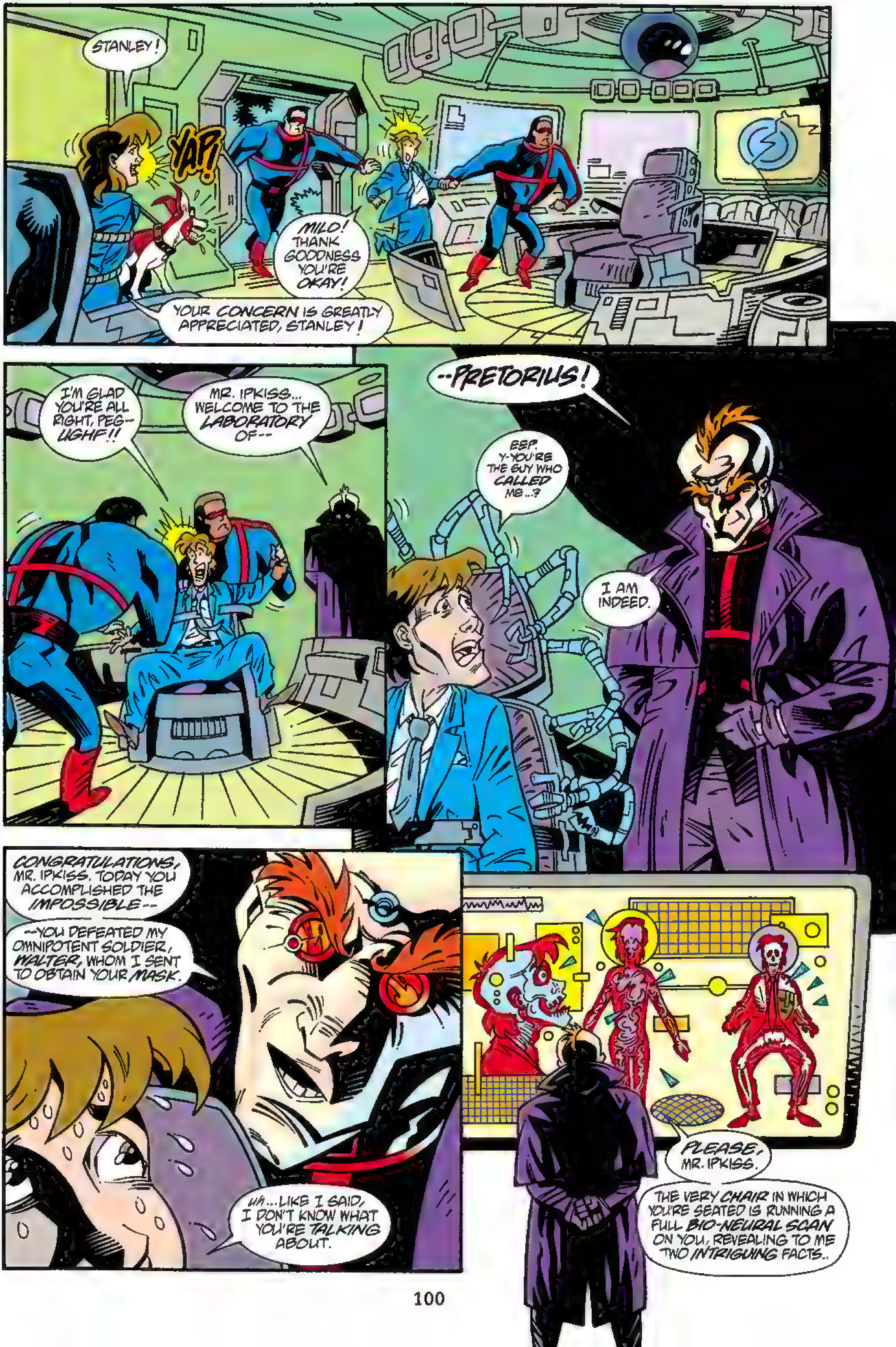

HMM...OUT OF--
PLUNK
--TUUUUNE!!
SKRANCH
HEY--YOU WOULDN'T HIT A GUY WITH GLASSES, WOULD YA?
POW!
KA-SPLAT
ouch.

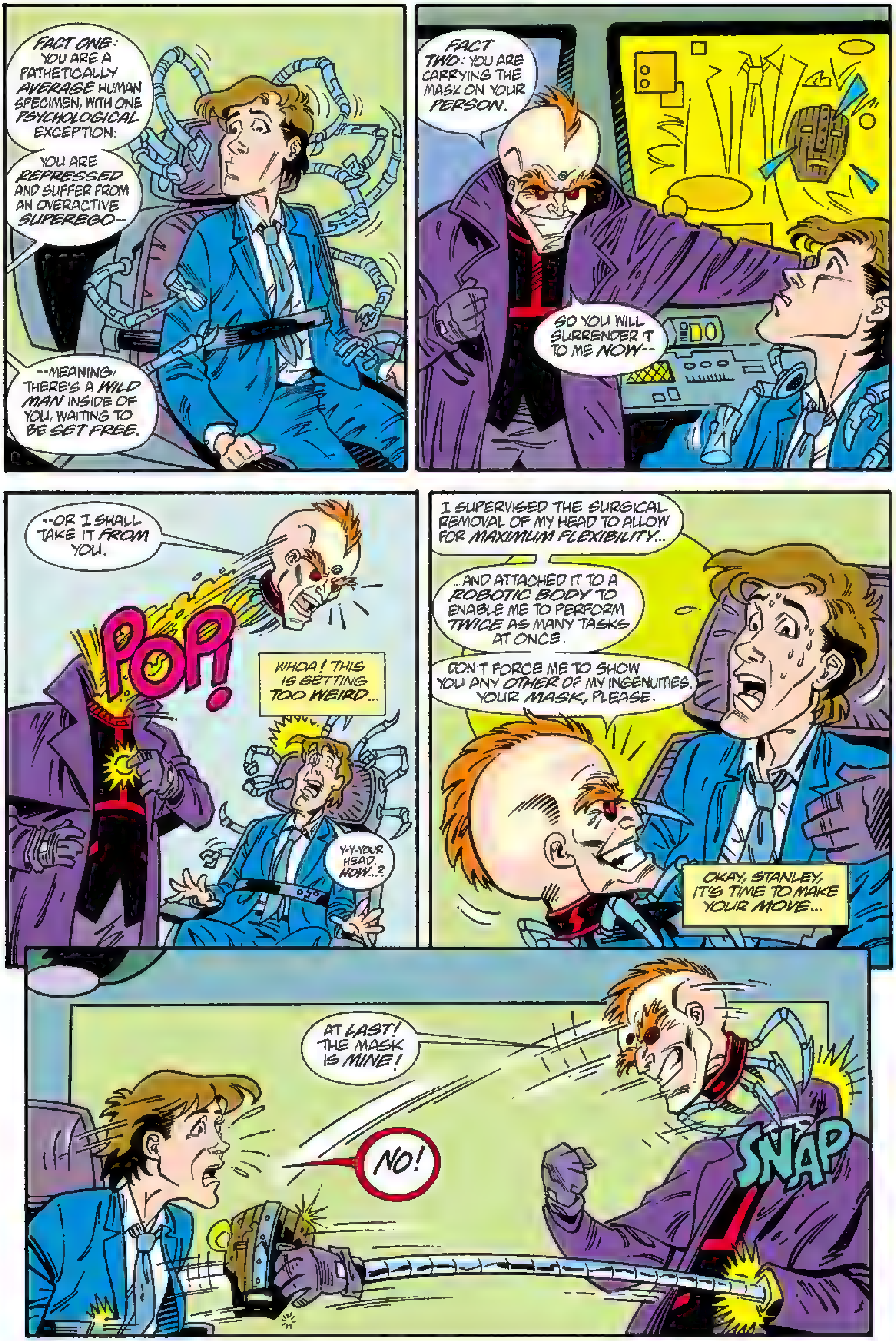

WOOSH
SURF'S UP, GRUESOME!
FWAK!
HERE—HOLD MY *DUCK*, WOULD YA?
FWOOMP
BWOOM
YOWZAH!

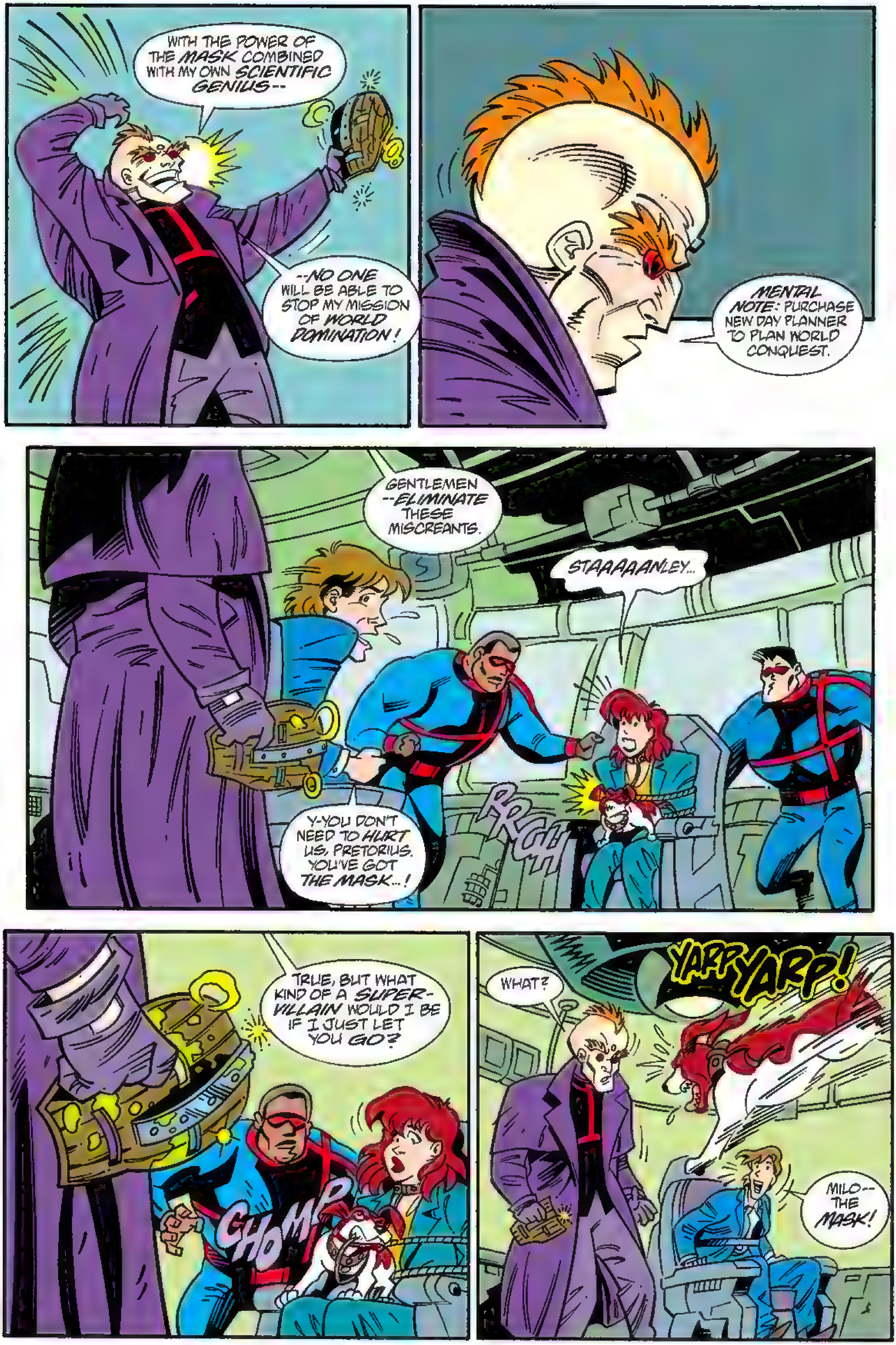

ZOOM
FURY
CONSTRUC
let 'er RIP!
SPLOOCH!
HAAHHHH
KWOOSH
TALK ABOUT YOUR HARDENED CRIMINAL!
rap rap

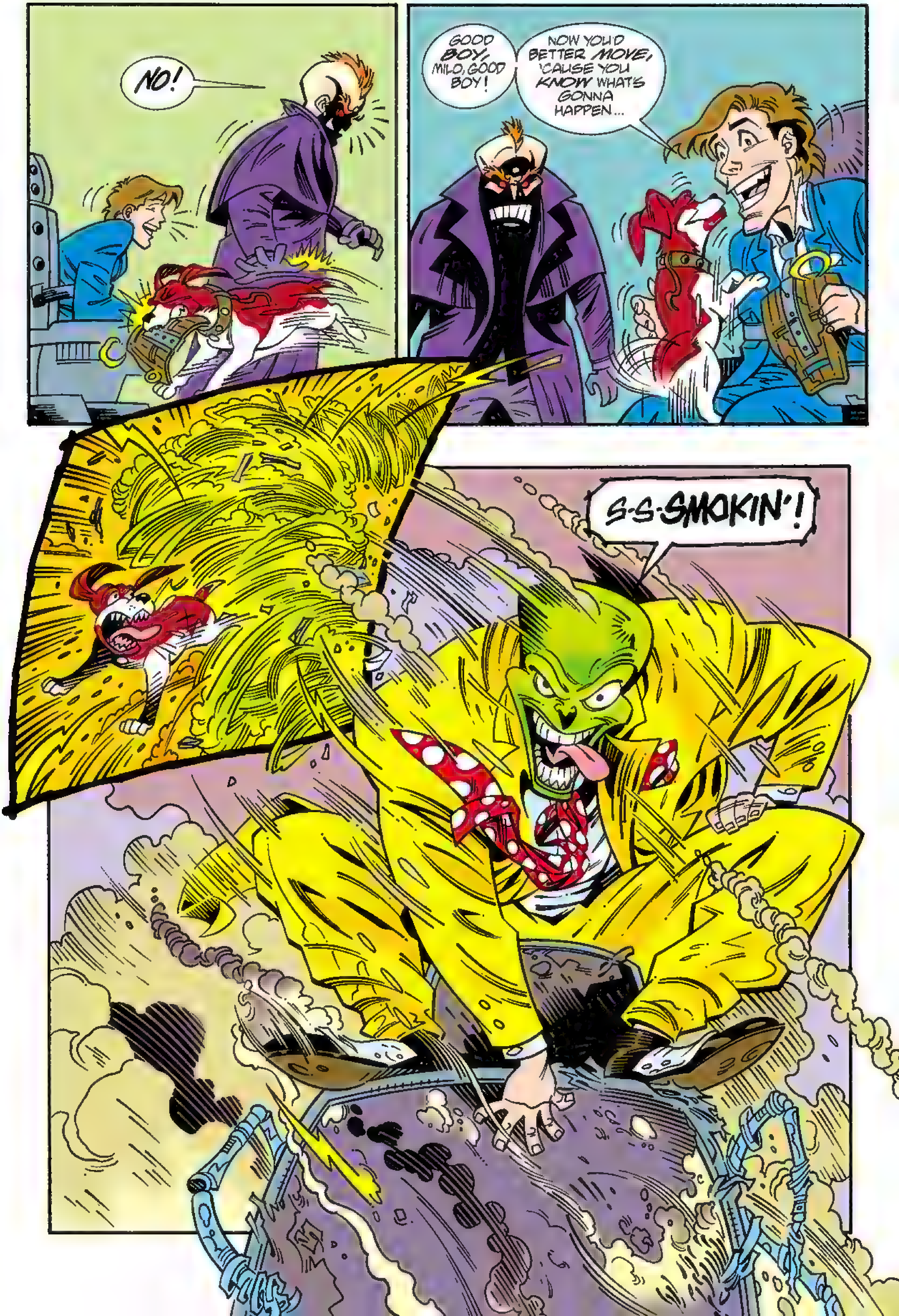

USUALLY, THE MOST EXCITING THING THAT HAPPENS TO PEOPLE ON THEIR LUNCH HOUR IS FINDING AN UNEXPECTED TWINKIE TUCKED AWAY AT THE BOTTOM OF THEIR LUNCH BAG...
...BUT ME, I GET TO TANGLE WITH A GOLEM!
NATIONAL BANK
BRING
NEW ACCOUNTS, STANLEY IPKISS SPEAKING. HOW MAY I HELP YOU?
YOUR MASK, MR. IPKISS. I WANT IT. NOW.
LT. KELLAWAY...?
THIS IS NOT THE POLICE, NOR SHOULD YOU ATTEMPT TO ENLIST THEIR AID.
NOW LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, MR IPKISS...
A STATION WAGON WITH TWO OF MY ASSOCIATES IS WAITING FOR YOU OUTSIDE YOUR BANK. YOU WILL ENTER IT NOW, AND BRING YOUR MASK WITH YOU.
MY MASK? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YOU WILL COOPERATE WITH ME, MR. IPKISS...
...OR YOU WILL NEVER SEE YOUR FRIEND PEGGY BRANDT OR YOUR DOG AGAIN!
I'M OKAY, STANLEY...DON'T GIVE IN TO THIS GEEK!
RARF RARR!

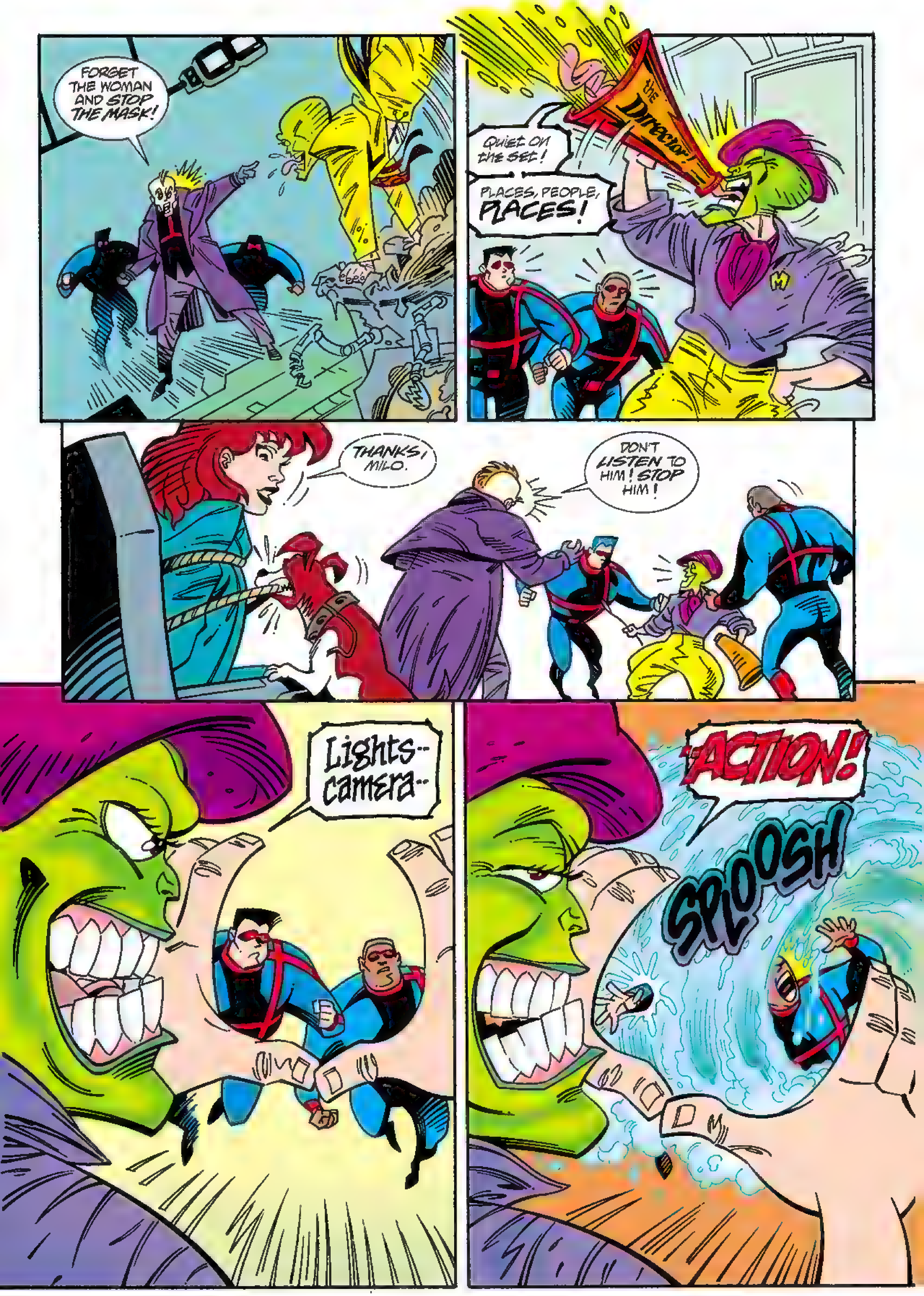

WAY TO GO, MASK! BECAUSE OF YOU, MY BEST FRIEND'S BEEN KIDNAPPED..
...AND PEGGY, TOO. POOR MILO...
I'LL LET THESE GUYS TAKE ME TO THEM, THEN, AT THE OPPORTUNE MOMENT--
--I'LL BECOME THE MASK AND MOP UP THOSE BUMS!
THERE HE GOES, DOYLE!
WHO...? THE ICE-CREAM MAN?
NO, YOU NINNY. IT'S IPKISS-- LEAVING IN THAT STATION WAGON!
YOU GOT SOMETHIN' AGAINST STATION WAGONS, LT. KELLAWAY?
NO, DOYLE. LET ME REFRESH YOUR MEMORY, SINCE IT'S OBVIOUSLY AS STALE AS THOSE DOUGHNUTS YOU'RE SCARFING.
THE MASK WAS SEEN AN HOUR AGO AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE. I SUSPECT THAT STANLEY IPKISS IS THE MASK. WE ARE STAKING OUT IPKISS. GOT IT?!
OH, YEAH. SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
SCREECH
WE FOLLOW THEM, THAT'S WHAT!
UH, LIEUTENANT-- AIN'T IT ILLEGAL TO MAKE A U-TURN ON A CITY STREET?
DOYLE!
HAIGH U-HAUL-IT

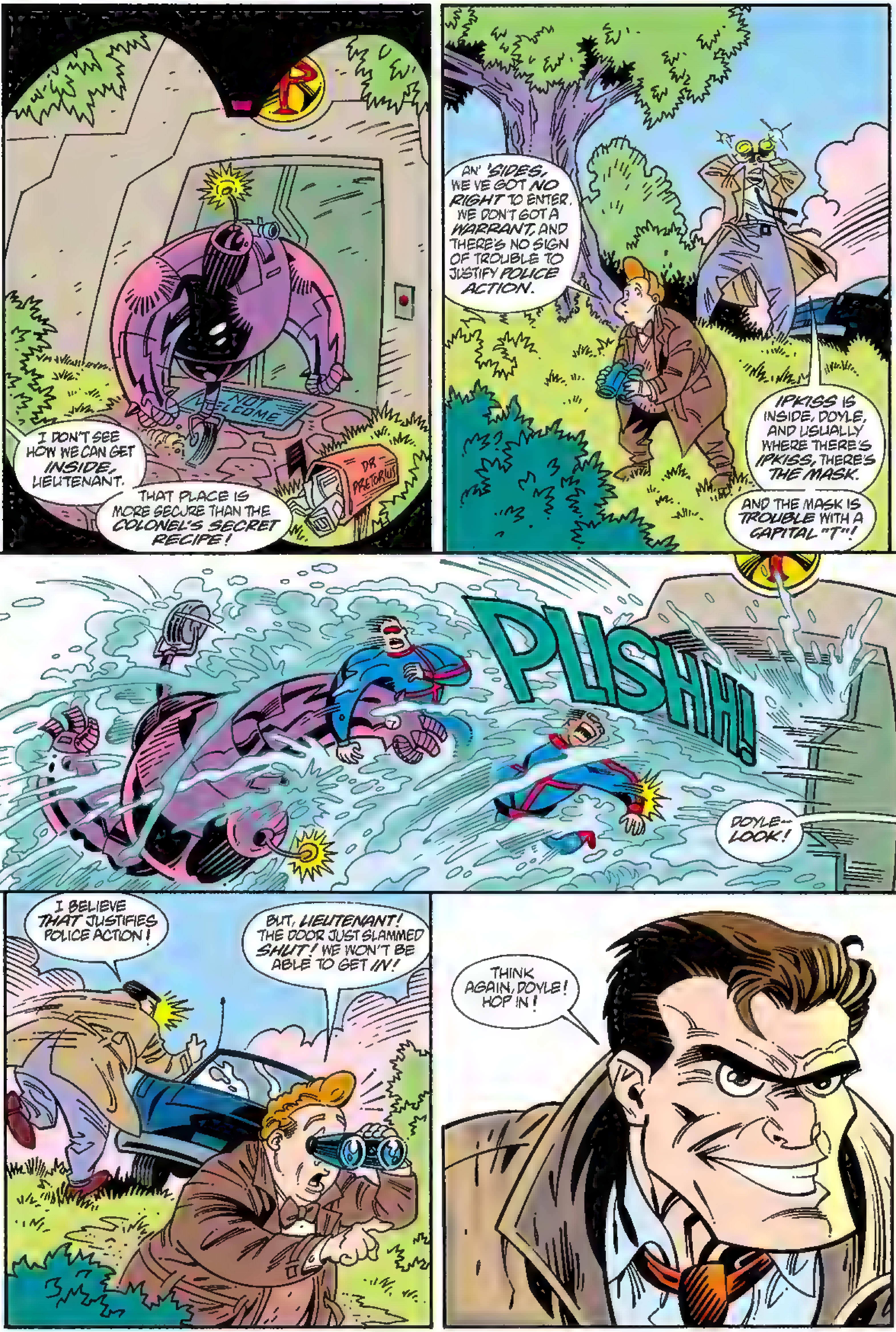

STANLEY!
YAP!
MILO! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE OKAY!
YOUR CONCERN IS GREATLY APPRECIATED, STANLEY!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, PEG-- UGHF!!
MR. IPKISS... WELCOME TO THE LABORATORY OF--
--PRETORIUS!
EEP. Y-YOU'RE THE GUY WHO CALLED ME...?
I AM INDEED.
CONGRATULATIONS, MR. IPKISS. TODAY YOU ACCOMPLISHED THE IMPOSSIBLE--
--YOU DEFEATED MY OMNIPOTENT SOLDIER, WALTER, WHOM I SENT TO OBTAIN YOUR MASK.
UH...LIKE I SAID, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
PLEASE, MR. IPKISS.
THE VERY CHAIR IN WHICH YOU'RE SEATED IS RUNNING A FULL BIO-NEURAL SCAN ON YOU, REVEALING TO ME TWO INTRIGUING FACTS..

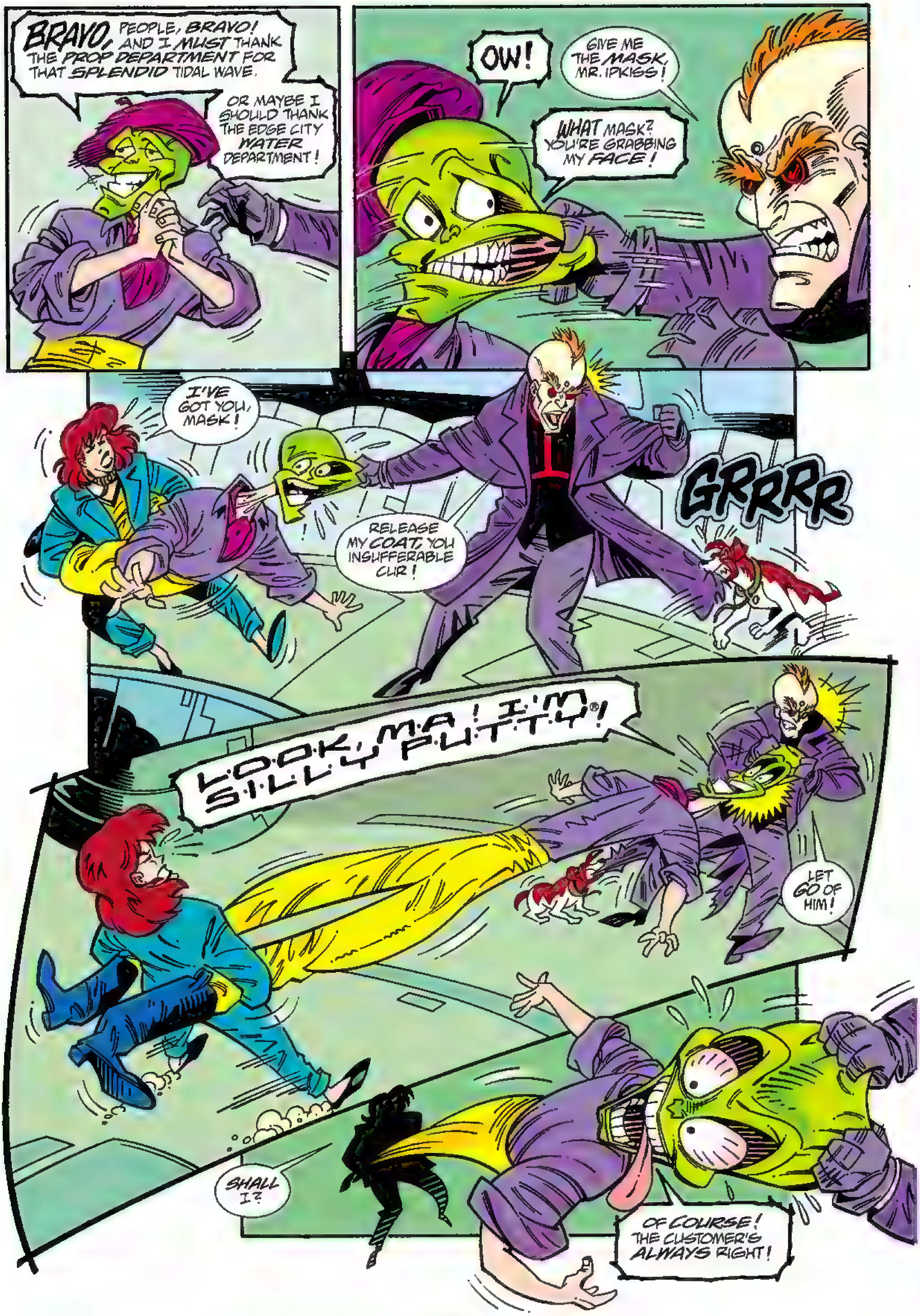

FACT ONE: YOU ARE A PATHETICALLY AVERAGE HUMAN SPECIMEN, WITH ONE PSYCHOLOGICAL EXCEPTION:
YOU ARE REPRESSED AND SUFFER FROM AN OVERACTIVE SUPEREGO--
--MEANING, THERE'S A WILD MAN INSIDE OF YOU, WAITING TO BE SET FREE.
FACT TWO: YOU ARE CARRYING THE MASK ON YOUR PERSON.
SO YOU WILL SURRENDER IT TO ME NOW--
--OR I SHALL TAKE IT FROM YOU.
POP!
WHOA! THIS IS GETTING TOO WEIRD...
Y-Y-YOUR HEAD. HOW...?
I SUPERVISED THE SURGICAL REMOVAL OF MY HEAD TO ALLOW FOR MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY...
...AND ATTACHED IT TO A ROBOTIC BODY TO ENABLE ME TO PERFORM TWICE AS MANY TASKS AT ONCE.
DON'T FORCE ME TO SHOW YOU ANY OTHER OF MY INGENUITIES. YOUR MASK, PLEASE.
OKAY, STANLEY, IT'S TIME TO MAKE YOUR MOVE...
AT LAST! THE MASK IS MINE!
NO!
SNAP

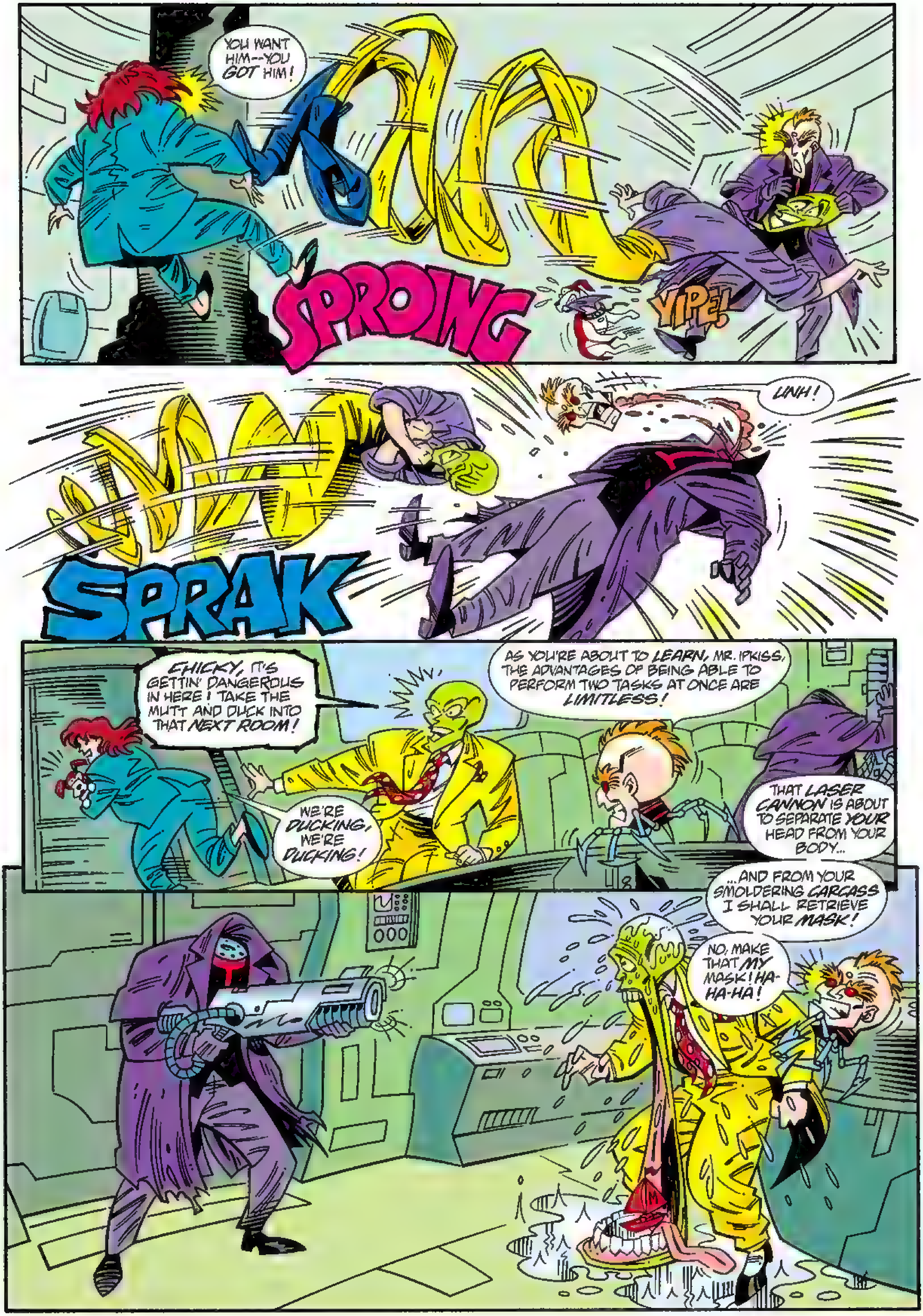

WITH THE POWER OF THE MASK COMBINED WITH MY OWN SCIENTIFIC GENIUS--
--NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO STOP MY MISSION OF WORLD DOMINATION!
MENTAL NOTE: PURCHASE NEW DAY PLANNER TO PLAN WORLD CONQUEST.
GENTLEMEN --ELIMINATE THESE MISCREANTS.
STAAAAANLEY...
RRGH
Y-YOU DON'T NEED TO HURT US, PRETORIUS. YOU'VE GOT THE MASK...!
TRUE, BUT WHAT KIND OF A SUPER-VILLAIN WOULD I BE IF I JUST LET YOU GO?
CHOMP
WHAT?
YARP YARP!
MILO-- THE MASK!

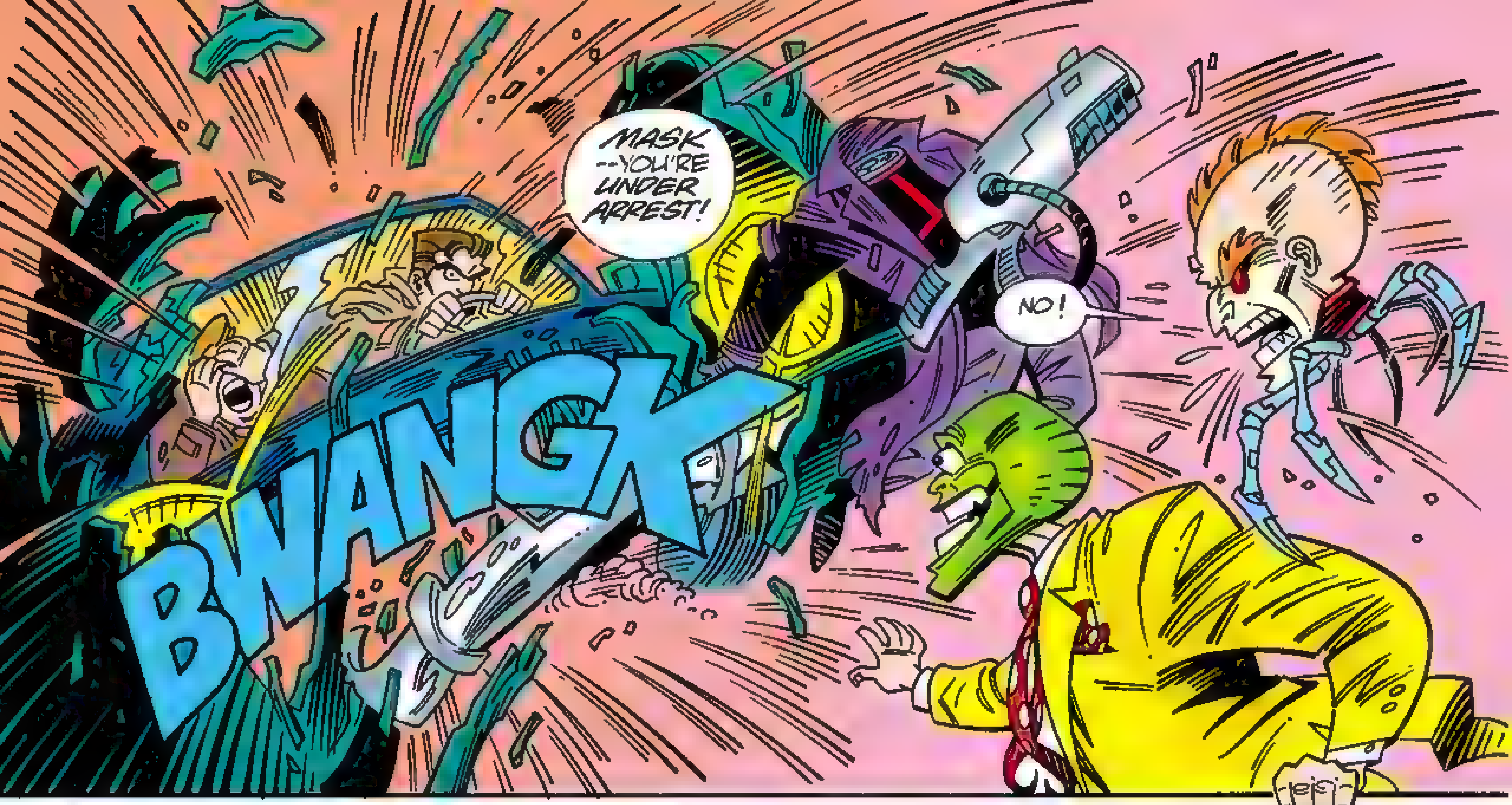

NO!
GOOD BOY, MILO, GOOD BOY!
NOW YOU'D BETTER MOVE, 'CAUSE YOU KNOW WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN...
S-S-SMOKIN'!

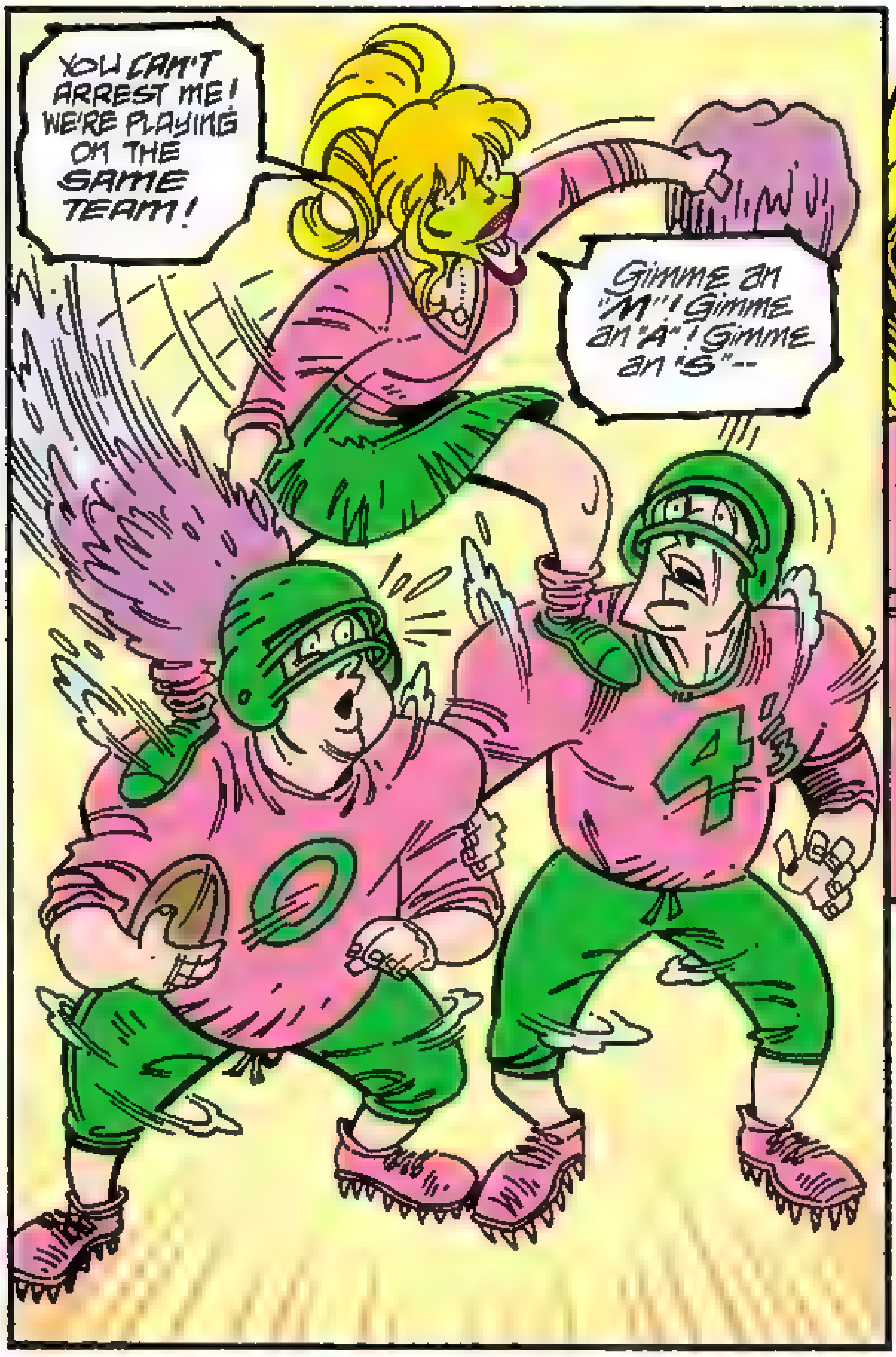

FORGET THE WOMAN AND STOP THE MASK!
the Director!
Quiet on the set!
PLACES, PEOPLE, PLACES!
THANKS, MILO.
DON'T LISTEN TO HIM! STOP HIM!
Lights-- camera--
ACTION!
SPLOOSH!

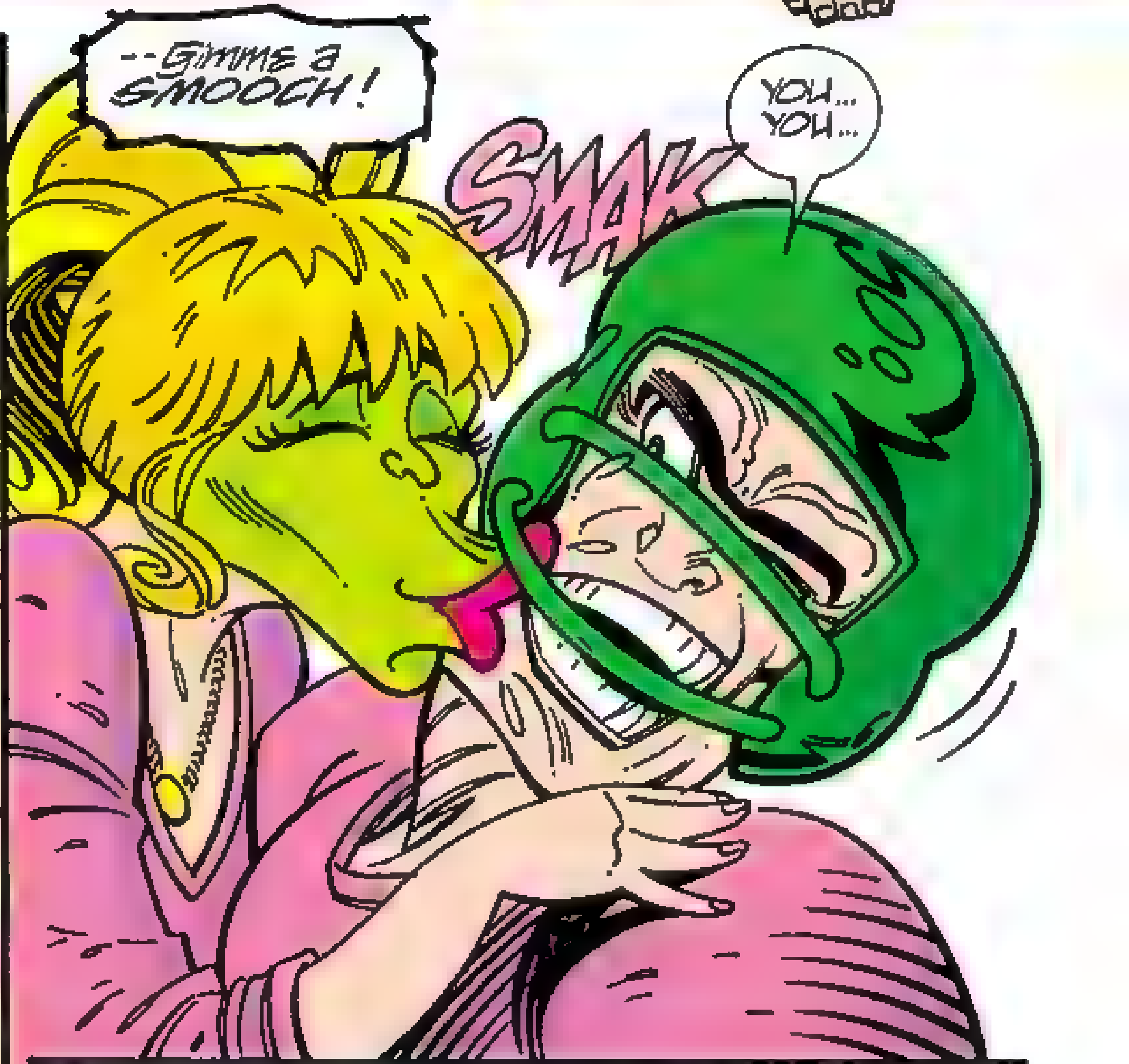

NOT WELCOME
DR PRETORIUS
I DON'T SEE HOW WE CAN GET *INSIDE*, LIEUTENANT.
THAT PLACE IS MORE SECURE THAN THE *COLONEL'S SECRET RECIPE!*
AN' *'SIDES*, WE'VE GOT *NO RIGHT* TO ENTER. WE DON'T GOT A *WARRANT*, AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF TROUBLE TO JUSTIFY *POLICE ACTION*.
IPKISS IS INSIDE, DOYLE, AND USUALLY WHERE THERE'S *IPKISS*, THERE'S *THE MASK*.
AND THE MASK IS *TROUBLE* WITH A *CAPITAL "T"!*
PLUSHH!
DOYLE-- *LOOK!*
I BELIEVE *THAT* JUSTIFIES POLICE ACTION!
BUT, *LIEUTENANT!* THE DOOR JUST SLAMMED *SHUT!* WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GET *IN!*
THINK AGAIN, DOYLE! HOP IN!

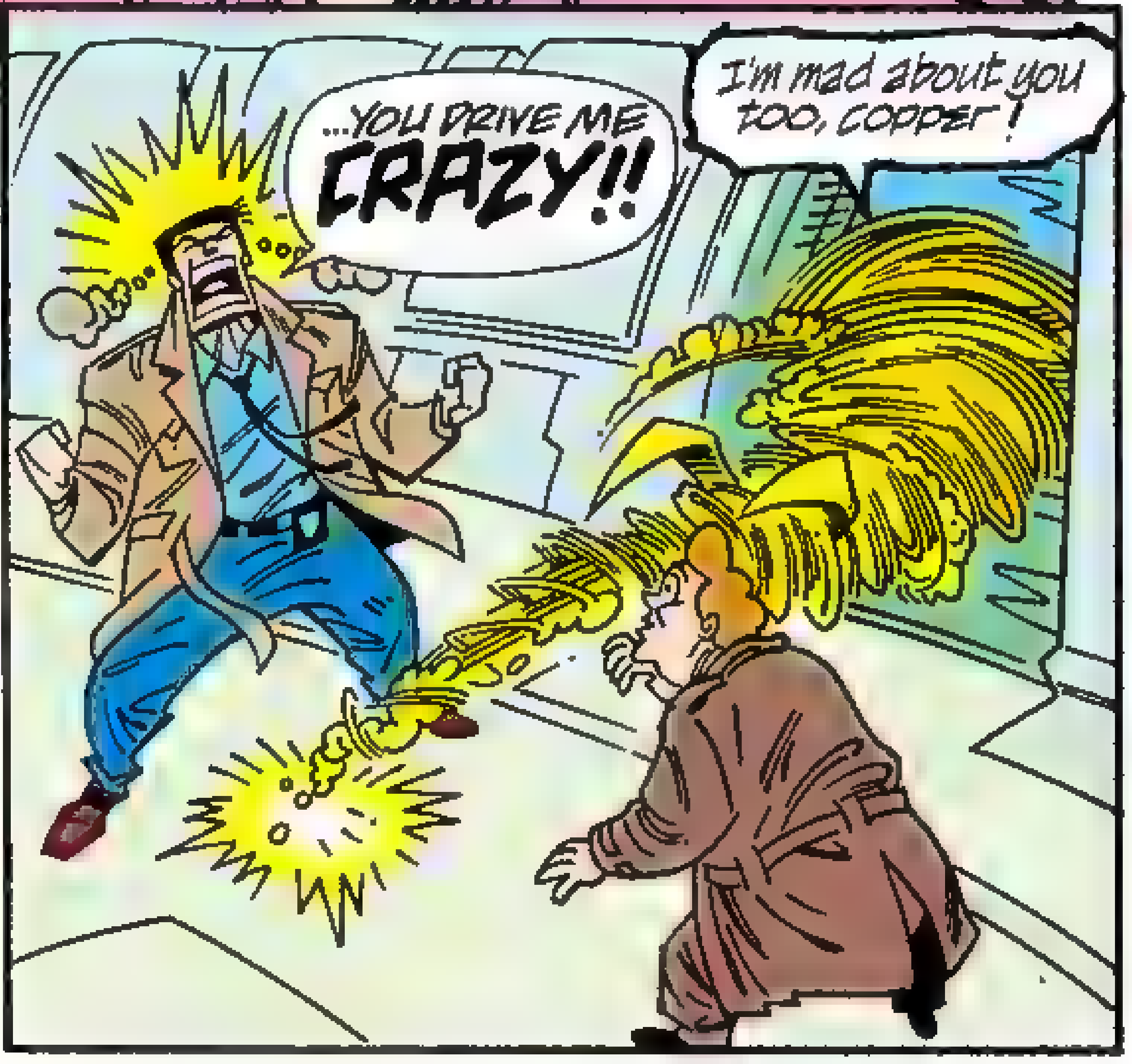

BRAVO, PEOPLE, BRAVO! AND I MUST THANK THE PROP DEPARTMENT FOR THAT SPLENDID TIDAL WAVE.
OR MAYBE I SHOULD THANK THE EDGE CITY WATER DEPARTMENT!
OW!
GIVE ME THE MASK, MR. IPKISS!
WHAT MASK? YOU'RE GRABBING MY FACE!
I'VE GOT YOU, MASK!
RELEASE MY COAT, YOU INSUFFERABLE CUR!
GRRRR
LOOK, MA! I'M SILLY PUTTY®!
LET GO OF HIM!
SHALL I?
OF COURSE! THE CUSTOMER'S ALWAYS RIGHT!

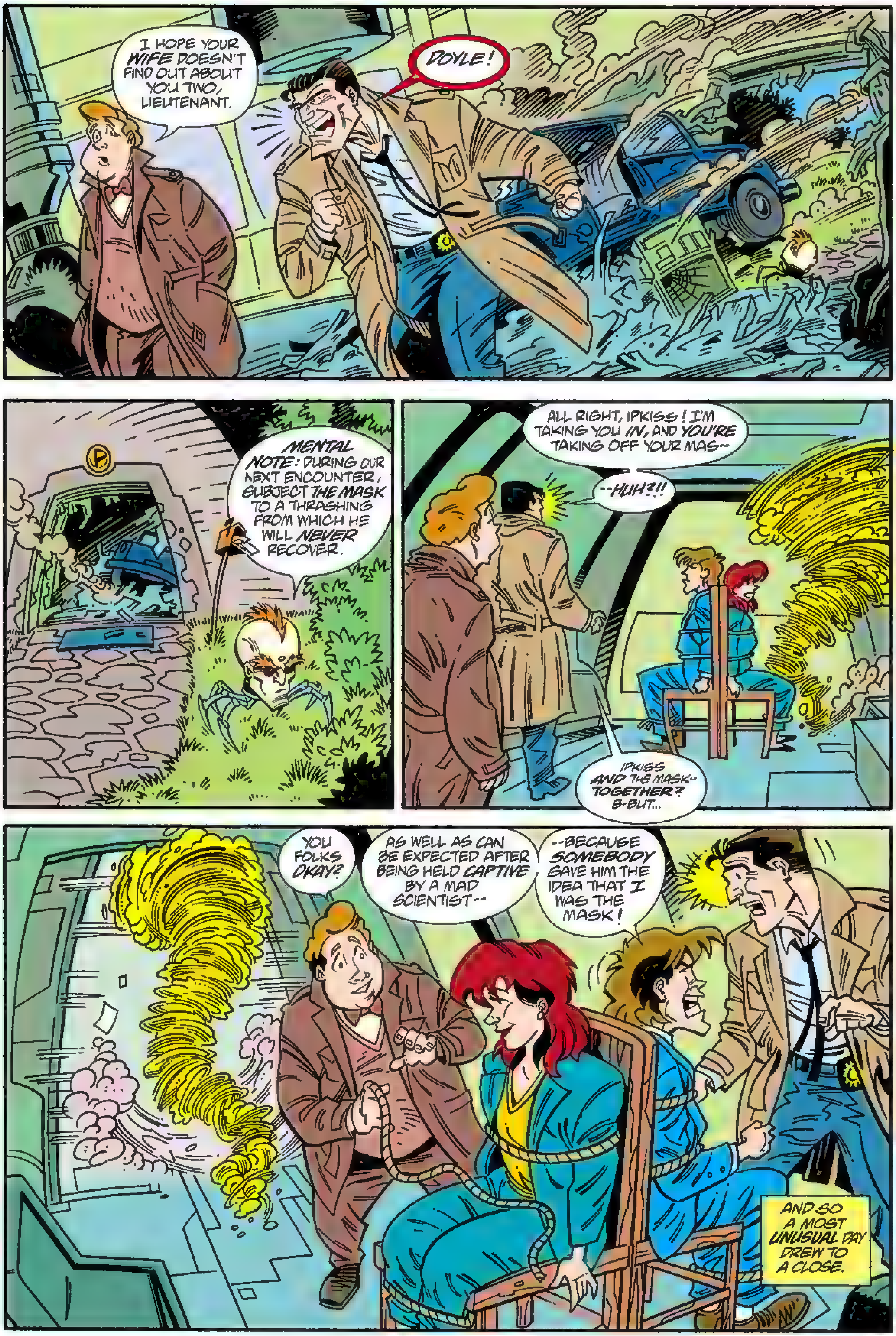

YOU WANT HIM--YOU GOT HIM!
SPROING
YIPE!
UNH!
SPRAK
CHICKY, IT'S GETTIN' DANGEROUS IN HERE! TAKE THE MUTT AND DUCK INTO THAT NEXT ROOM!
WE'RE DUCKING, WE'RE DUCKING!
AS YOU'RE ABOUT TO LEARN, MR. IPKISS, THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING ABLE TO PERFORM TWO TASKS AT ONCE ARE LIMITLESS!
THAT LASER CANNON IS ABOUT TO SEPARATE YOUR HEAD FROM YOUR BODY...
...AND FROM YOUR SMOLDERING CARCASS I SHALL RETRIEVE YOUR MASK!
NO, MAKE THAT MY MASK! HA-HA-HA!

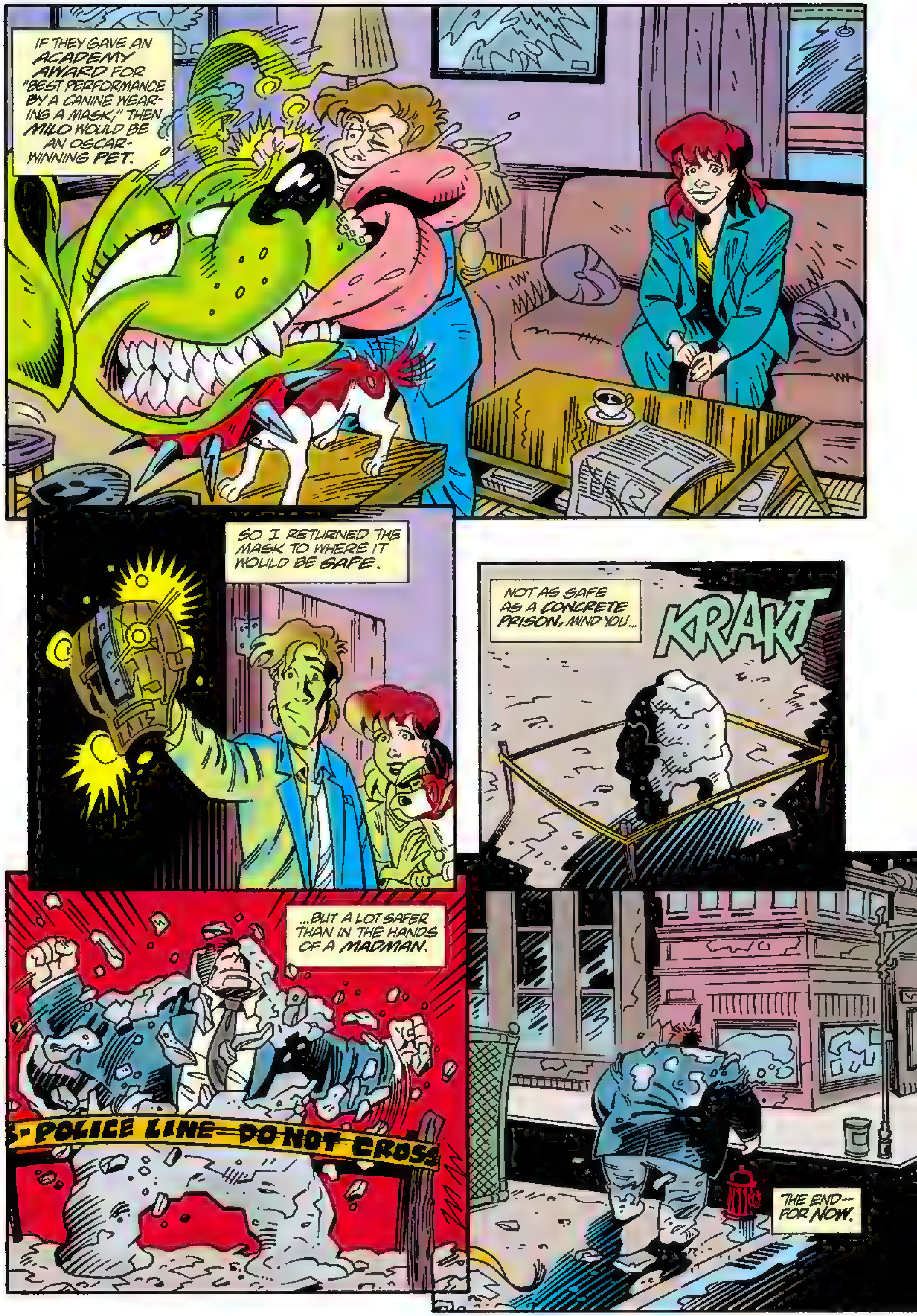

MASK --YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
BWANGK
NO!


YOU CAN'T ARREST ME! WE'RE PLAYING ON THE SAME TEAM!
Gimme an "M"! Gimme an "A"! Gimme an "S"--
0
4

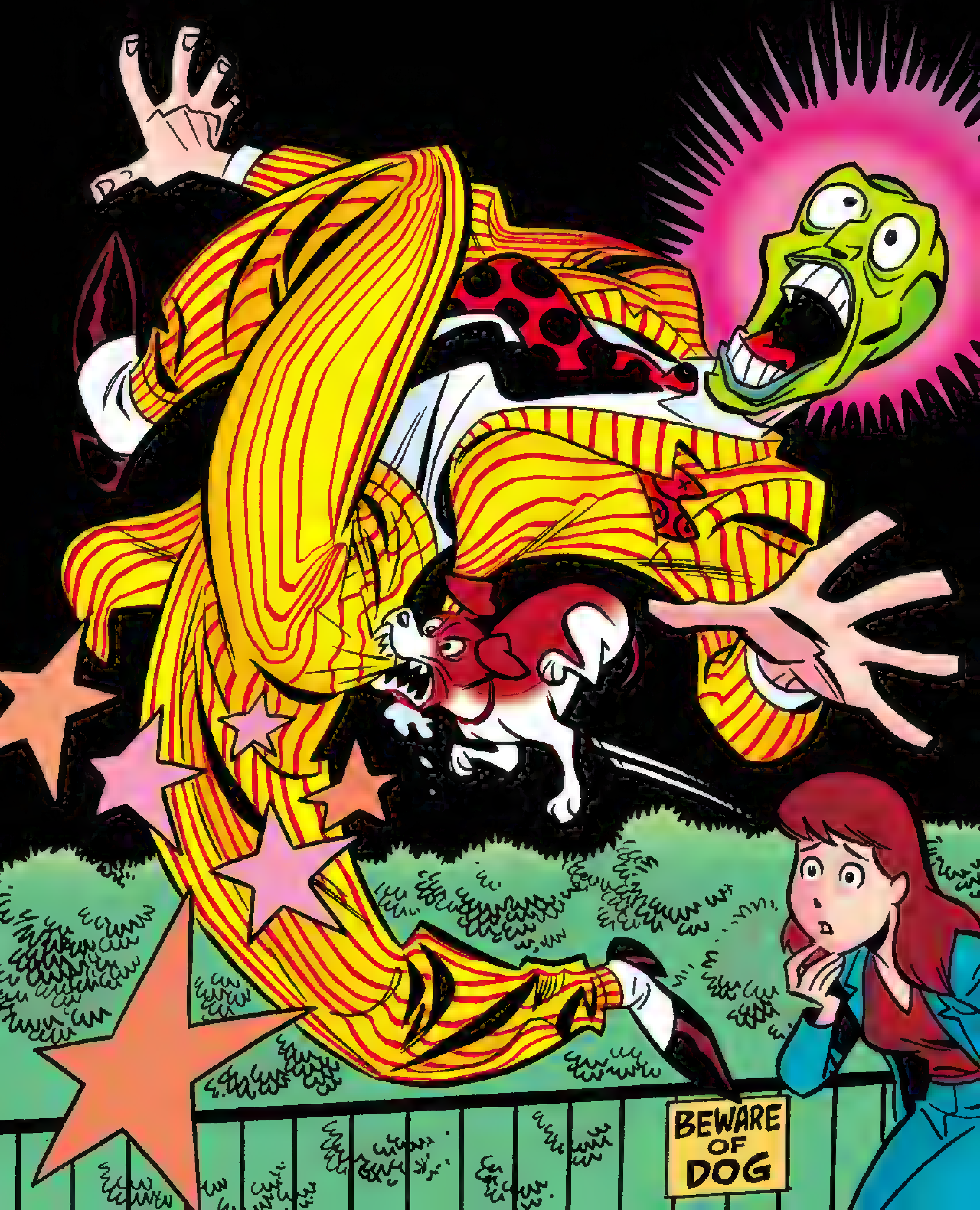

--Gimme a SMOOCH!
SMAK
YOU... YOU...


...YOU DRIVE ME CRAZY!!
I'm mad about you too, copper!


I HOPE YOUR *WIFE* DOESN'T FIND OUT ABOUT YOU TWO, LIEUTENANT.
DOYLE!
MENTAL NOTE: DURING OUR NEXT ENCOUNTER, SUBJECT *THE MASK* TO A THRASHING FROM WHICH HE WILL *NEVER* RECOVER.
ALL RIGHT, IPKISS! I'M TAKING YOU *IN*, AND *YOU'RE* TAKING OFF YOUR MAS--
--*HUH?!!*
IPKISS AND THE MASK-- TOGETHER? B-BUT...
YOU FOLKS OKAY?
AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED AFTER BEING HELD *CAPTIVE* BY A MAD SCIENTIST--
--BECAUSE *SOMEBODY* GAVE HIM THE IDEA THAT I WAS THE MASK!
AND SO A MOST *UNUSUAL* DAY DREW TO A CLOSE.


IF THEY GAVE AN ACADEMY AWARD FOR "BEST PERFORMANCE BY A CANINE WEARING A MASK," THEN MILO WOULD BE AN OSCAR-WINNING PET.
SO I RETURNED THE MASK TO WHERE IT WOULD BE SAFE.
NOT AS SAFE AS A CONCRETE PRISON, MIND YOU...
KRAK!
...BUT A LOT SAFER THAN IN THE HANDS OF A MADMAN.
POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS
THE END—FOR NOW.

IT'S A DOG'S LIFE


BEWARE OF DOG

script
MICHAEL EURY

pencils
NEIL VOKES

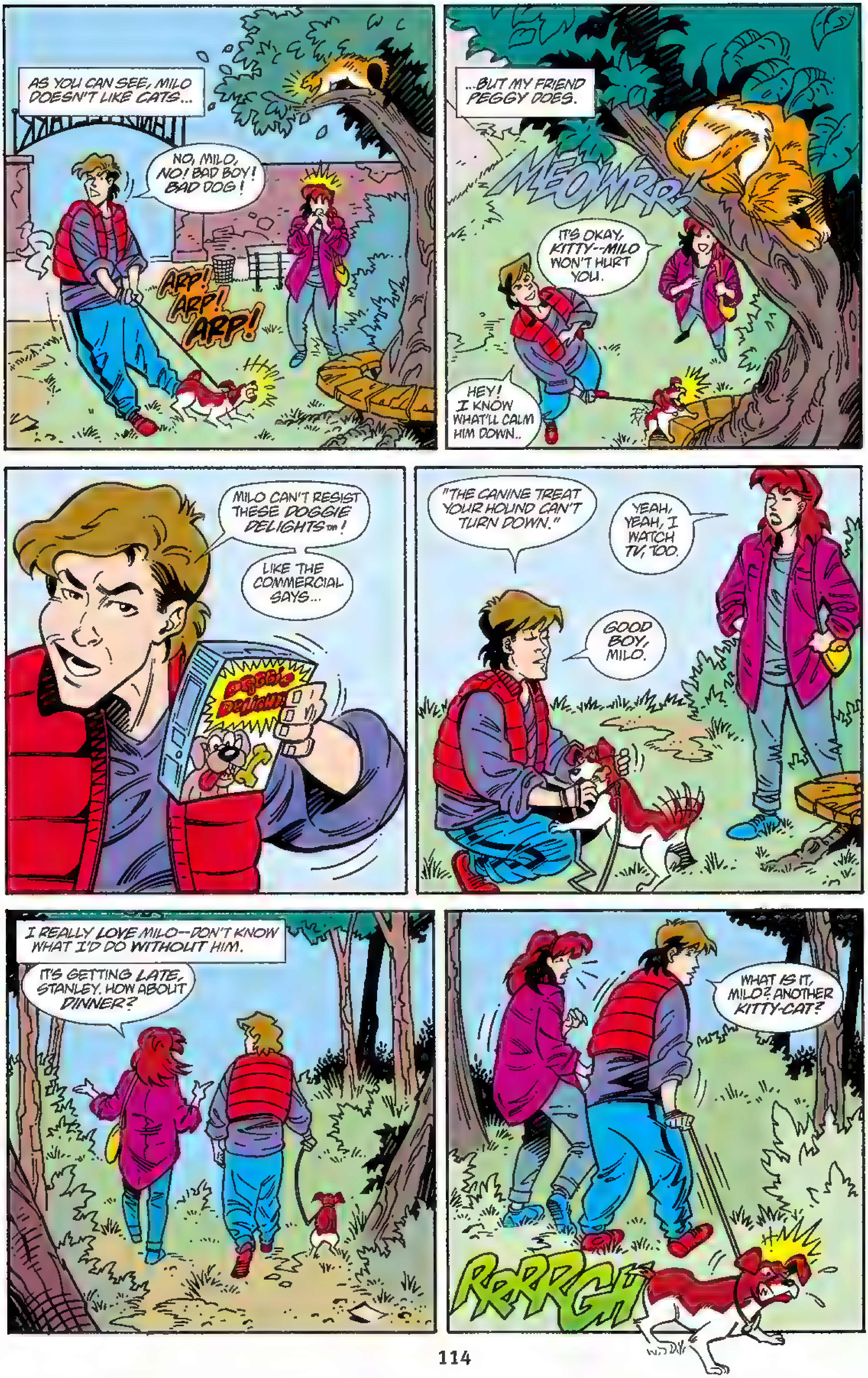
inks
JAY GELDHOF

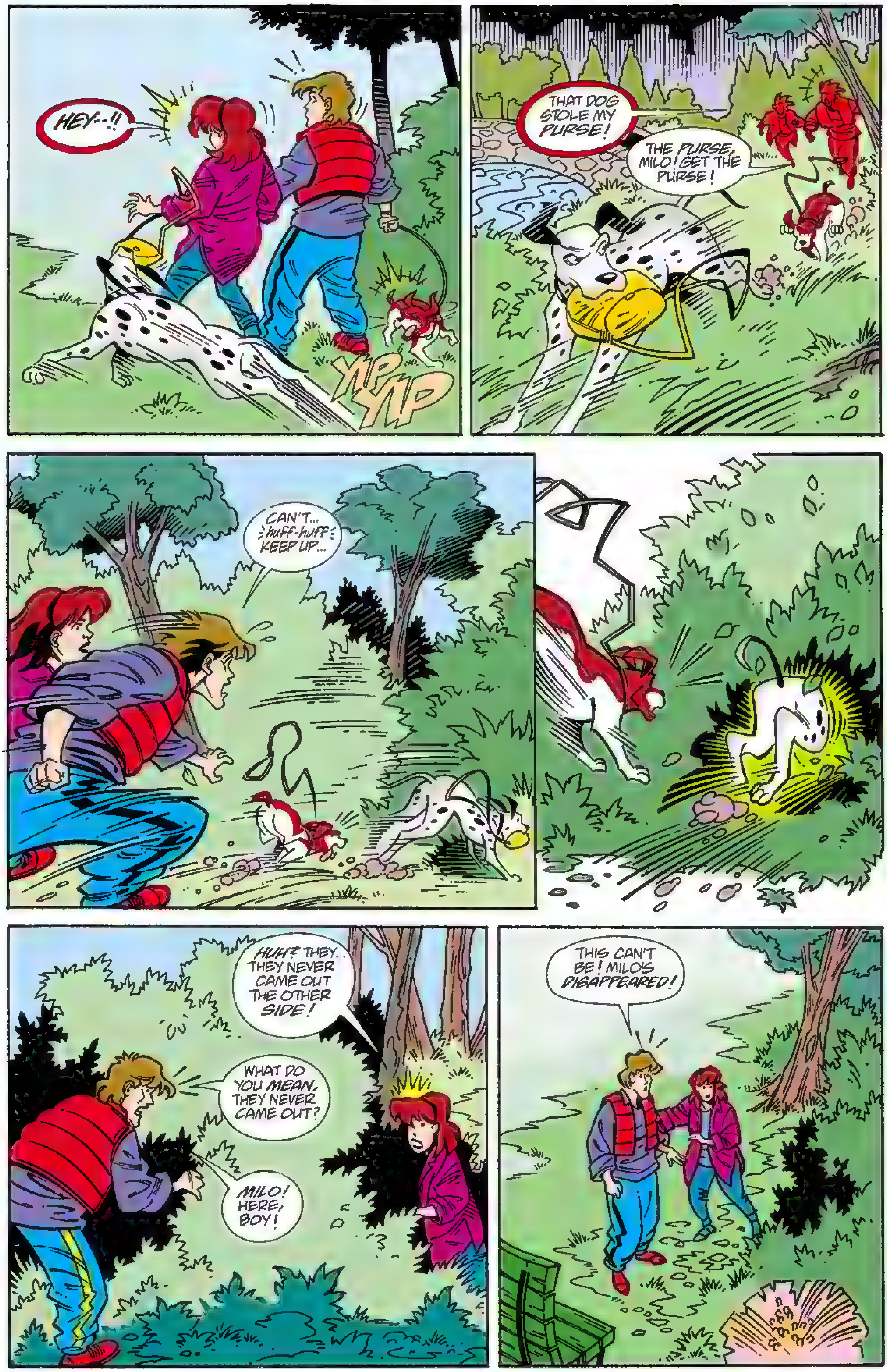
colors
MATT WEBB

lettering
CLEM ROBINS

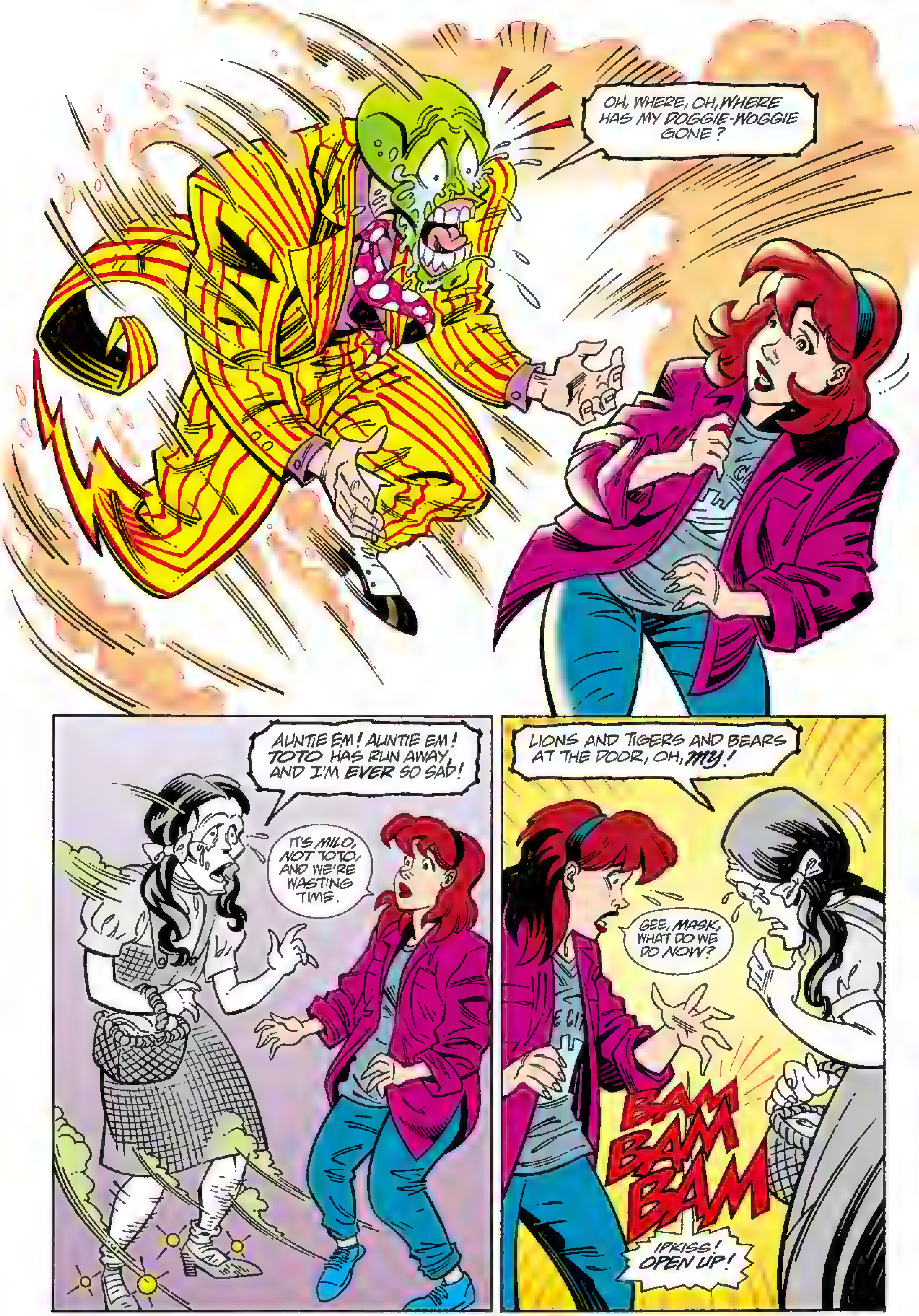
title illustration
BRUCE TIMM

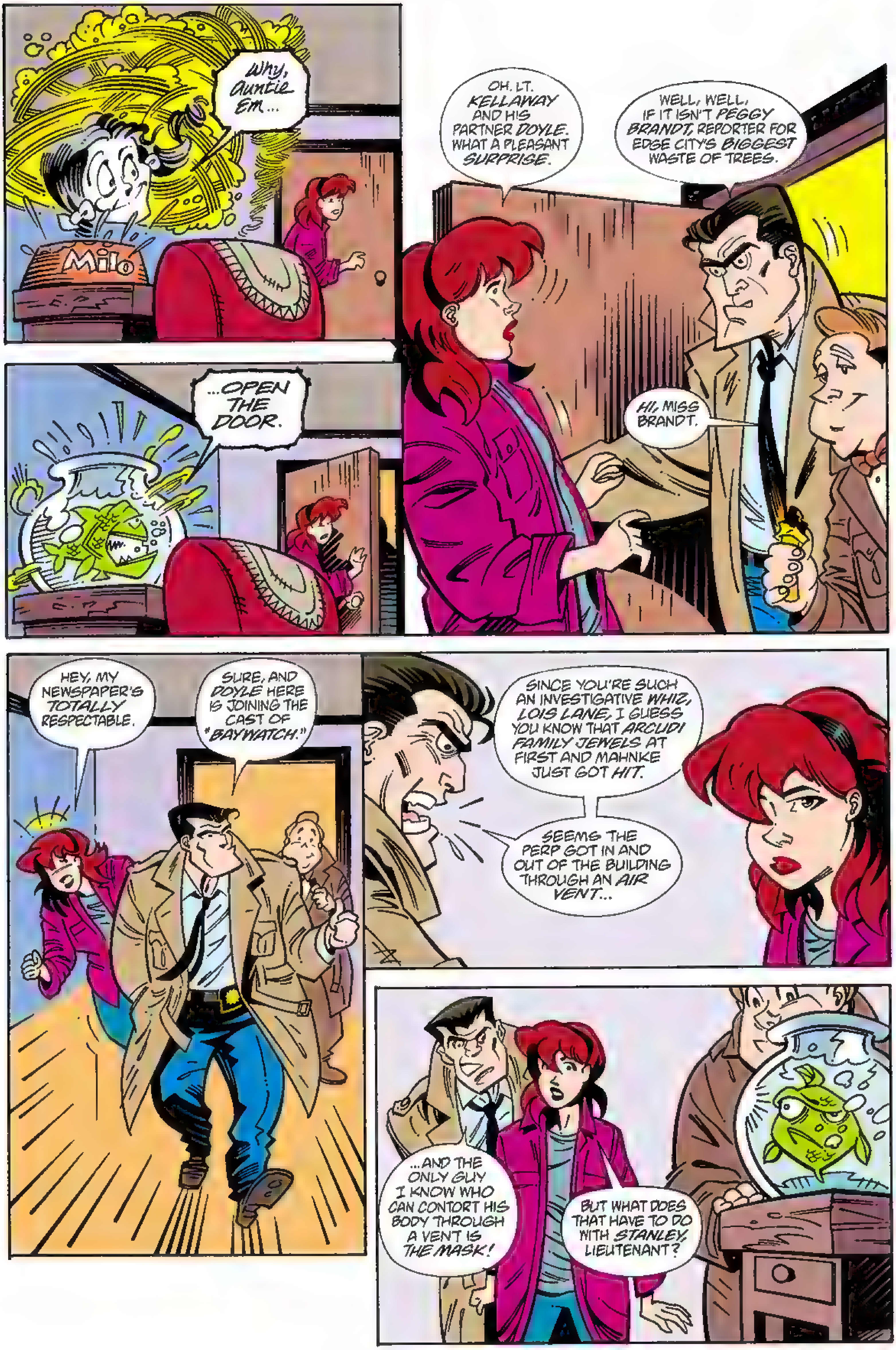
STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
AND THIS IS MY DOG, MILO.
GRRR
it's a dog's life

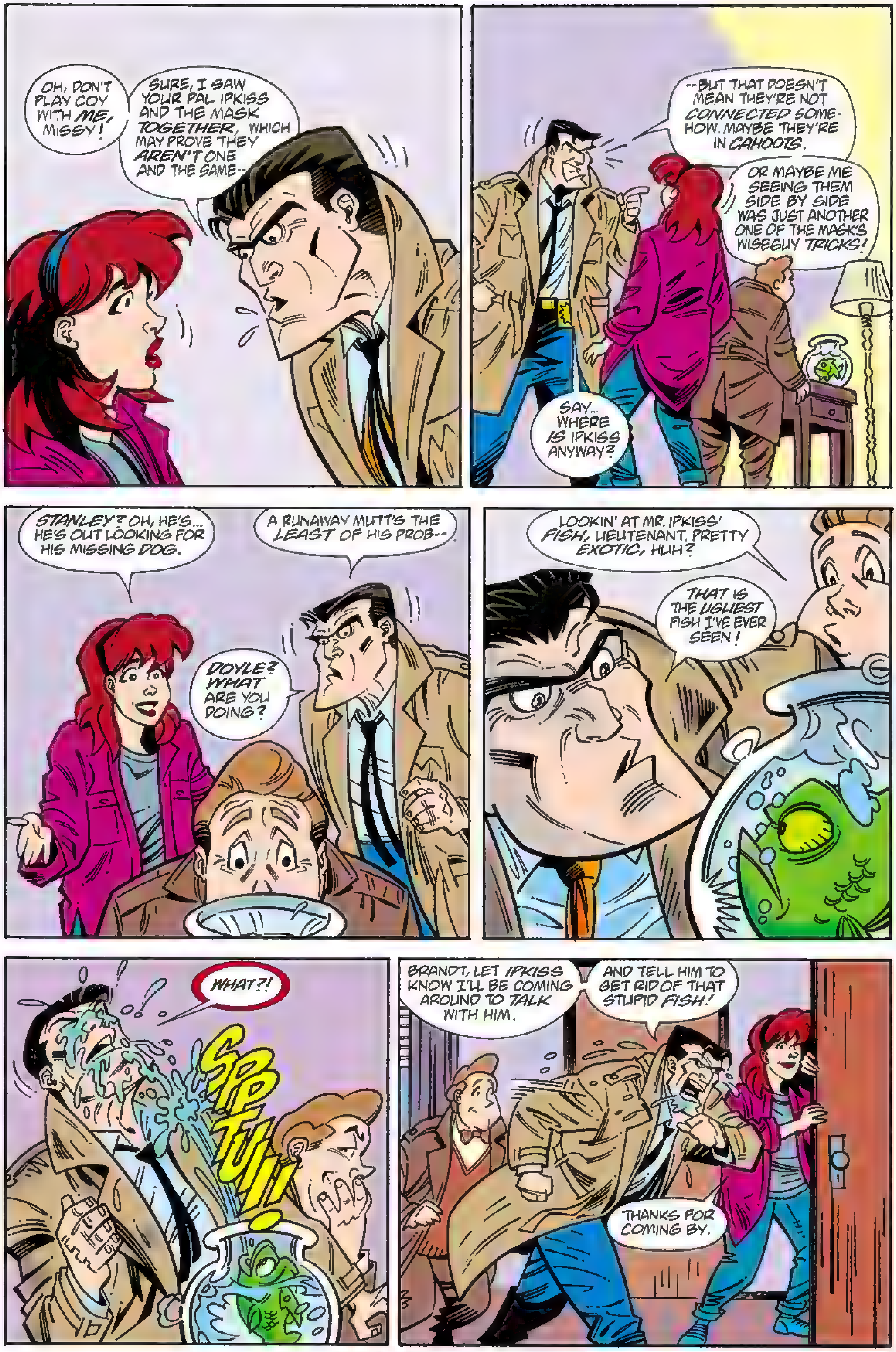

AS YOU CAN SEE, MILO DOESN'T LIKE CATS...
NO, MILO, NO! BAD BOY! BAD DOG!
ARP! ARP! ARP!
...BUT MY FRIEND PEGGY DOES.
MEOWRR!
IT'S OKAY, KITTY--MILO WON'T HURT YOU.
HEY! I KNOW WHAT'LL CALM HIM DOWN..
MILO CAN'T RESIST THESE DOGGIE DELIGHTS™!
LIKE THE COMMERCIAL SAYS...
DOGGIE DELIGHTS
"THE CANINE TREAT YOUR HOUND CAN'T TURN DOWN."
YEAH, YEAH, I WATCH TV, TOO.
GOOD BOY, MILO.
I REALLY LOVE MILO--DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT HIM.
IT'S GETTING LATE, STANLEY. HOW ABOUT DINNER?
WHAT IS IT, MILO? ANOTHER KITTY-CAT?
RRRRGH


HEY--!!
YIP YIP
THAT DOG STOLE MY PURSE!
THE PURSE, MILO! GET THE PURSE!
CAN'T... huff-huff KEEP UP...
HUH? THEY... THEY NEVER CAME OUT THE OTHER SIDE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THEY NEVER CAME OUT?
MILO! HERE, BOY!
THIS CAN'T BE! MILO'S DISAPPEARED!

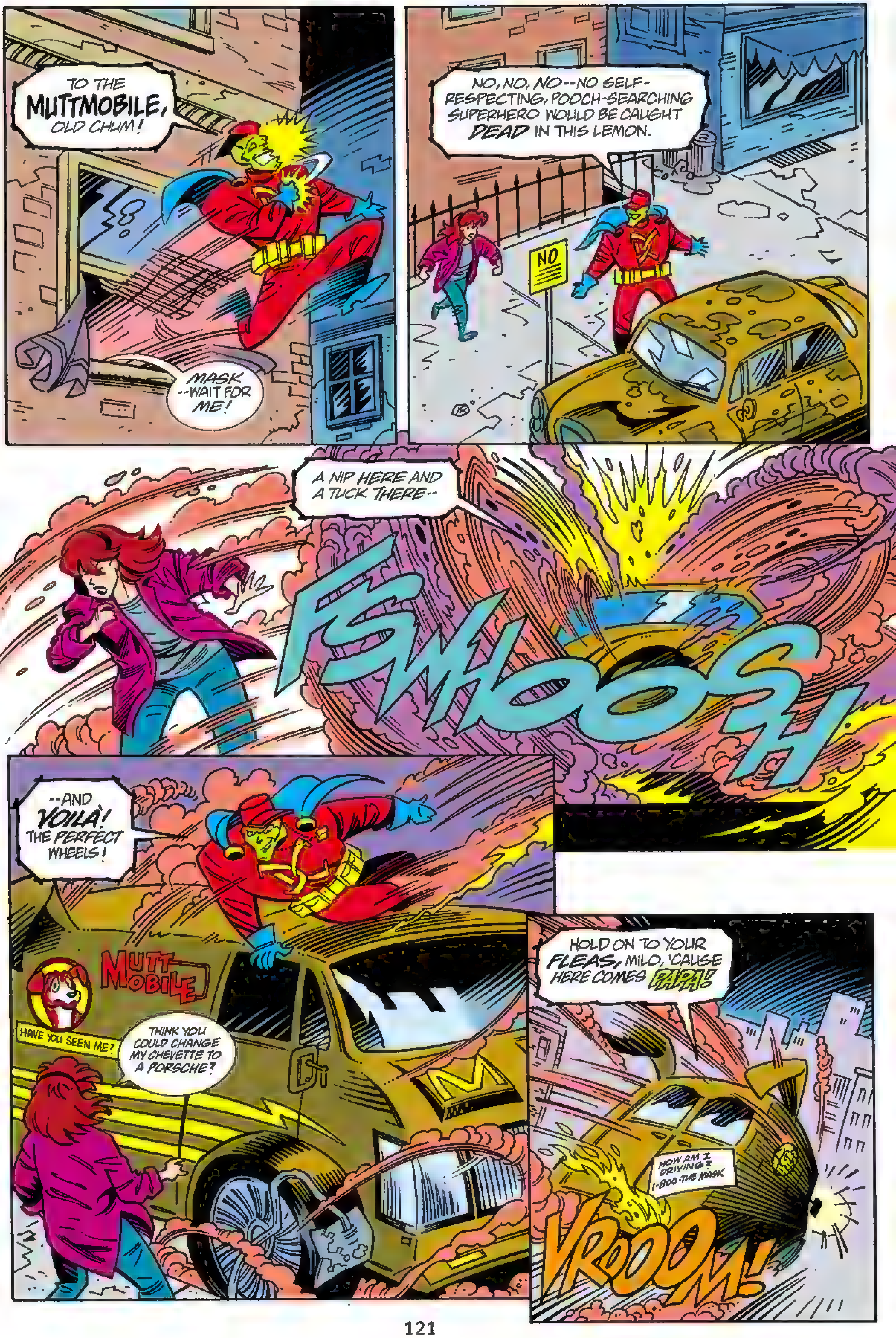
MILO--MISSING. I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS SAD SINCE...SINCE...
...I'VE NEVER BEEN THIS SAD.
CHEER UP, STANLEY--
--WE'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP US LOCATE MILO.
I'VE HAD MILO SINCE I WAS FIFTEEN. HE'S THE BEST FRIEND I'VE EVER HAD.
HERE'S A LISTING FOR A PET DETECTIVE. I'LL BET HE CAN FIND MILO.
A PET DETECTIVE?? WHO EVER HEARD OF SUCH A STUPID THING?!
BESIDES, I'VE GOT ALL THE HELP I NEED IN FINDING MILO RIGHT HERE!
I'VE GOT--
KEEP OUT
--MY MASK!
THIS MASK GIVES ME POWERS LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN. AND ALL I'VE GOTTA DO IS--
--PUT IT ON!

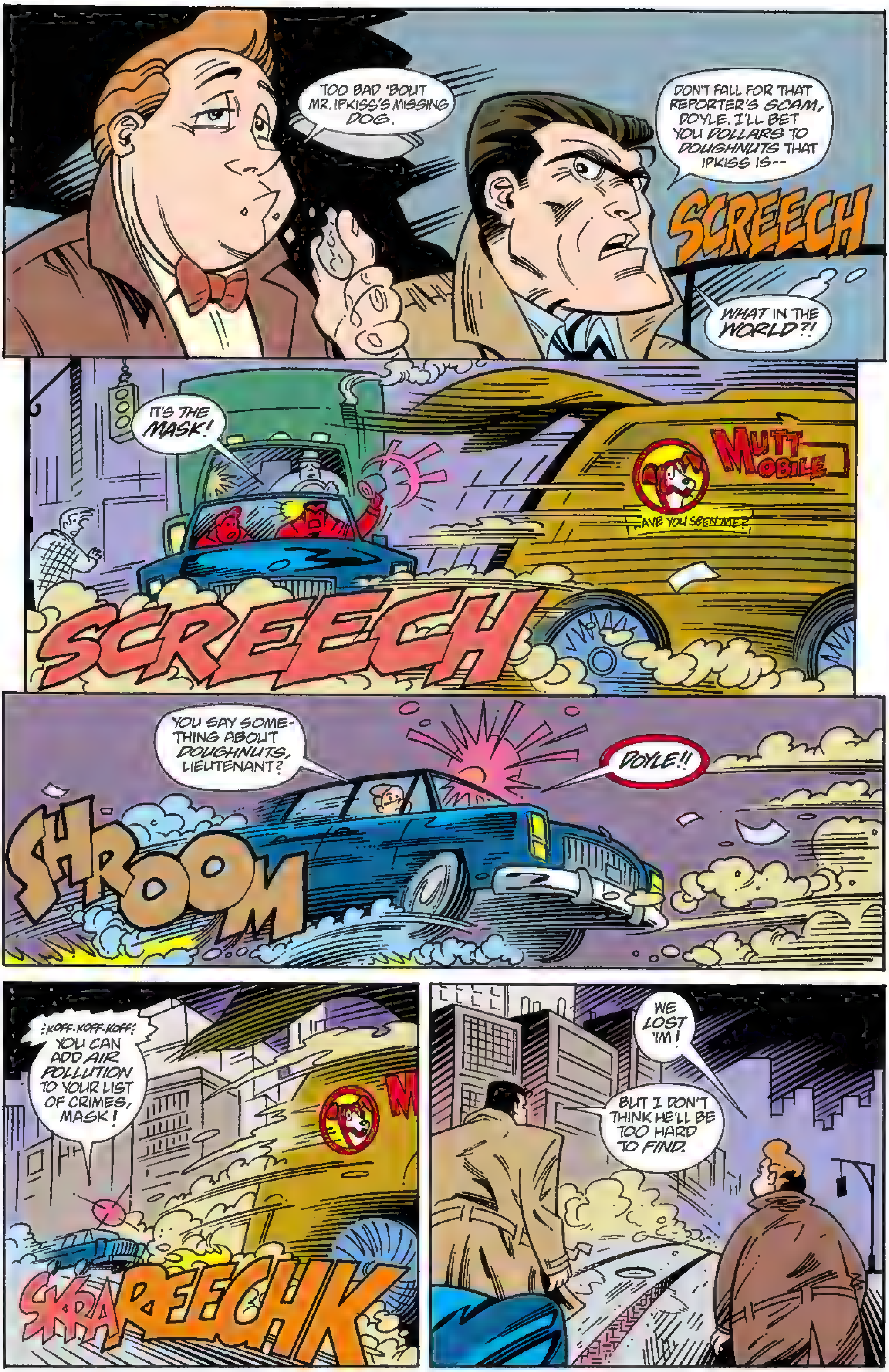

OH, WHERE, OH, WHERE HAS MY DOGGIE-WOGGIE GONE?
AUNTIE EM! AUNTIE EM! TOTO HAS RUN AWAY, AND I'M EVER SO SAD!
IT'S MILO, NOT TOTO! AND WE'RE WASTING TIME.
LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS AT THE DOOR, OH, MY!
GEE, MASK, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
BAM BAM BAM
IPKISS! OPEN UP!

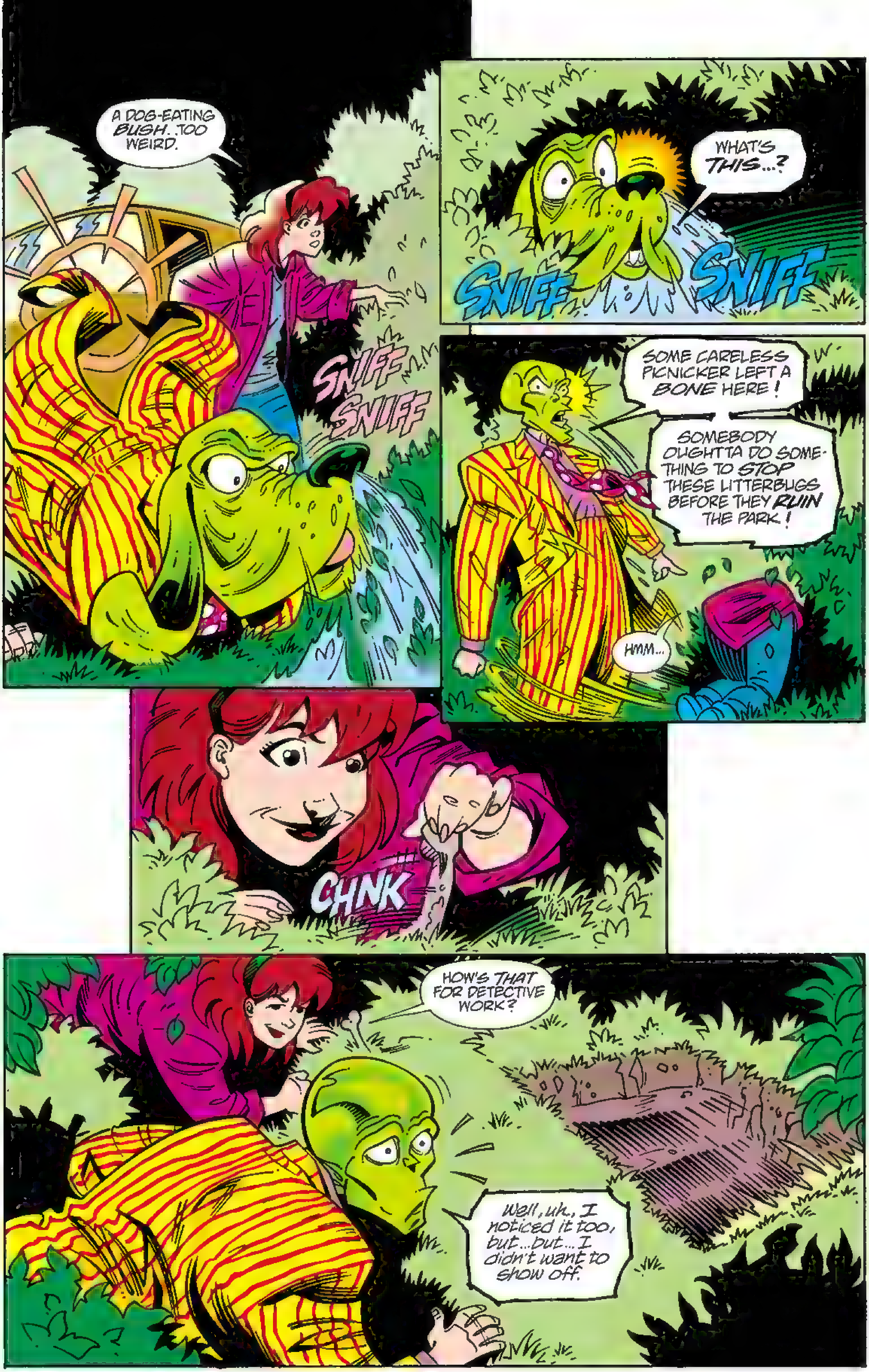

Why, Auntie Em...
...OPEN THE DOOR.
OH, LT. KELLAWAY AND HIS PARTNER DOYLE. WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE.
WELL, WELL, IF IT ISN'T PEGGY BRANDT, REPORTER FOR EDGE CITY'S BIGGEST WASTE OF TREES.
HI, MISS BRANDT.
Milo
HEY, MY NEWSPAPER'S TOTALLY RESPECTABLE.
SURE, AND DOYLE HERE IS JOINING THE CAST OF "BAYWATCH."
SINCE YOU'RE SUCH AN INVESTIGATIVE WHIZ, LOIS LANE, I GUESS YOU KNOW THAT ARCUDI FAMILY JEWELS AT FIRST AND MAHNKE JUST GOT HIT.
SEEMS THE PERP GOT IN AND OUT OF THE BUILDING THROUGH AN AIR VENT...
...AND THE ONLY GUY I KNOW WHO CAN CONTORT HIS BODY THROUGH A VENT IS THE MASK!
BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH STANLEY, LIEUTENANT?

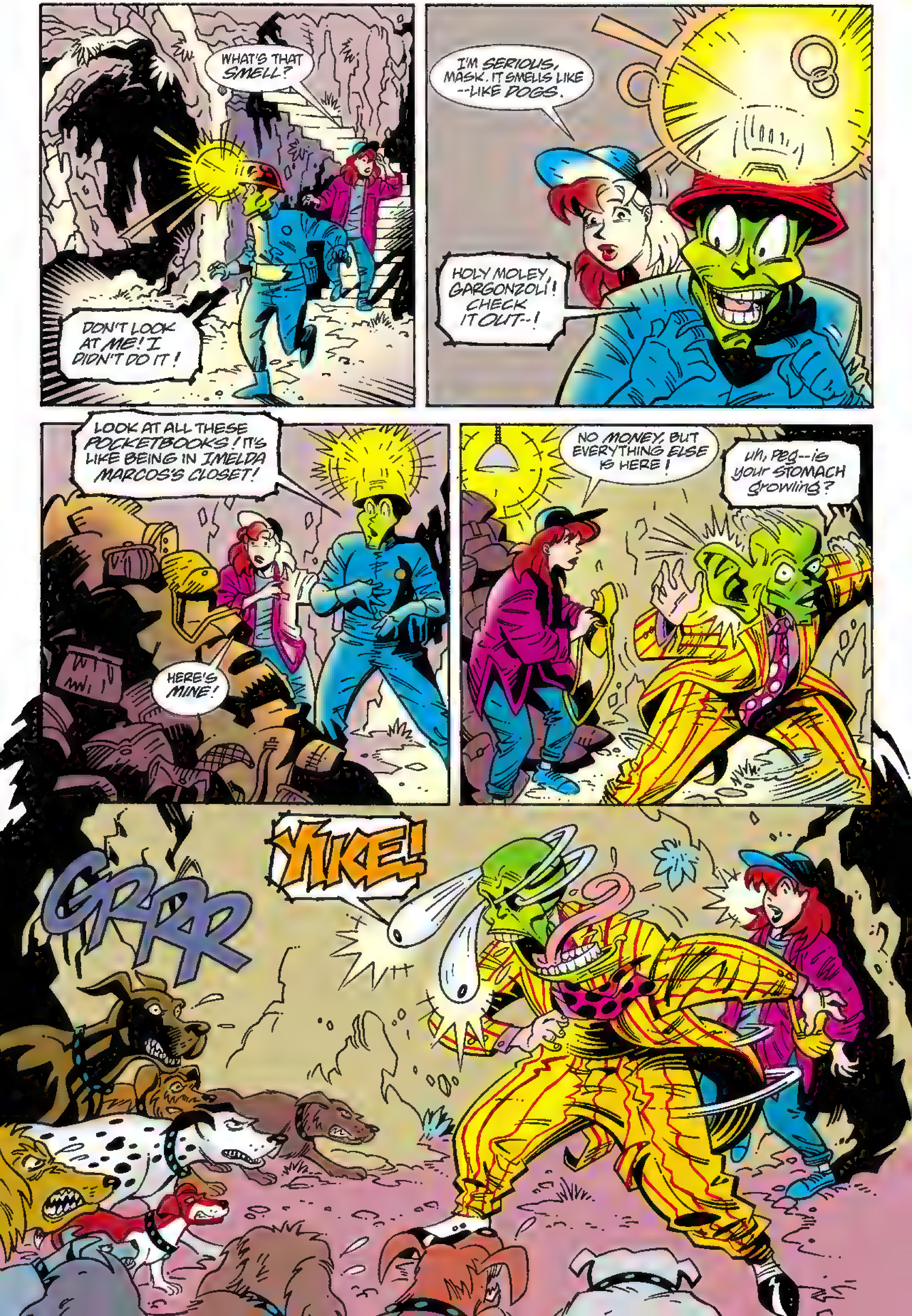

OH, DON'T PLAY COY WITH *ME*, MISSY!
SURE, I SAW YOUR PAL IPKISS AND THE MASK *TOGETHER*, WHICH MAY PROVE THEY *AREN'T* ONE AND THE SAME--
--BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE NOT CONNECTED SOMEHOW. MAYBE THEY'RE IN *CAHOOTS*.
OR MAYBE ME SEEING THEM SIDE BY SIDE WAS JUST ANOTHER ONE OF THE MASK'S WISEGUY *TRICKS*!
SAY... WHERE *IS* IPKISS ANYWAY?
STANLEY? OH, HE'S... HE'S OUT LOOKING FOR HIS MISSING DOG.
A RUNAWAY MUTT'S THE *LEAST* OF HIS PROB--
DOYLE? *WHAT* ARE YOU DOING?
LOOKIN' AT MR. IPKISS' *FISH*, LIEUTENANT. PRETTY *EXOTIC*, HUH?
THAT IS THE *UGLIEST* FISH I'VE EVER SEEN!
WHAT?!
SPPTUH!
BRANDT, LET *IPKISS* KNOW I'LL BE COMING AROUND TO *TALK* WITH HIM.
AND TELL HIM TO GET RID OF THAT STUPID *FISH*!
THANKS FOR COMING BY.

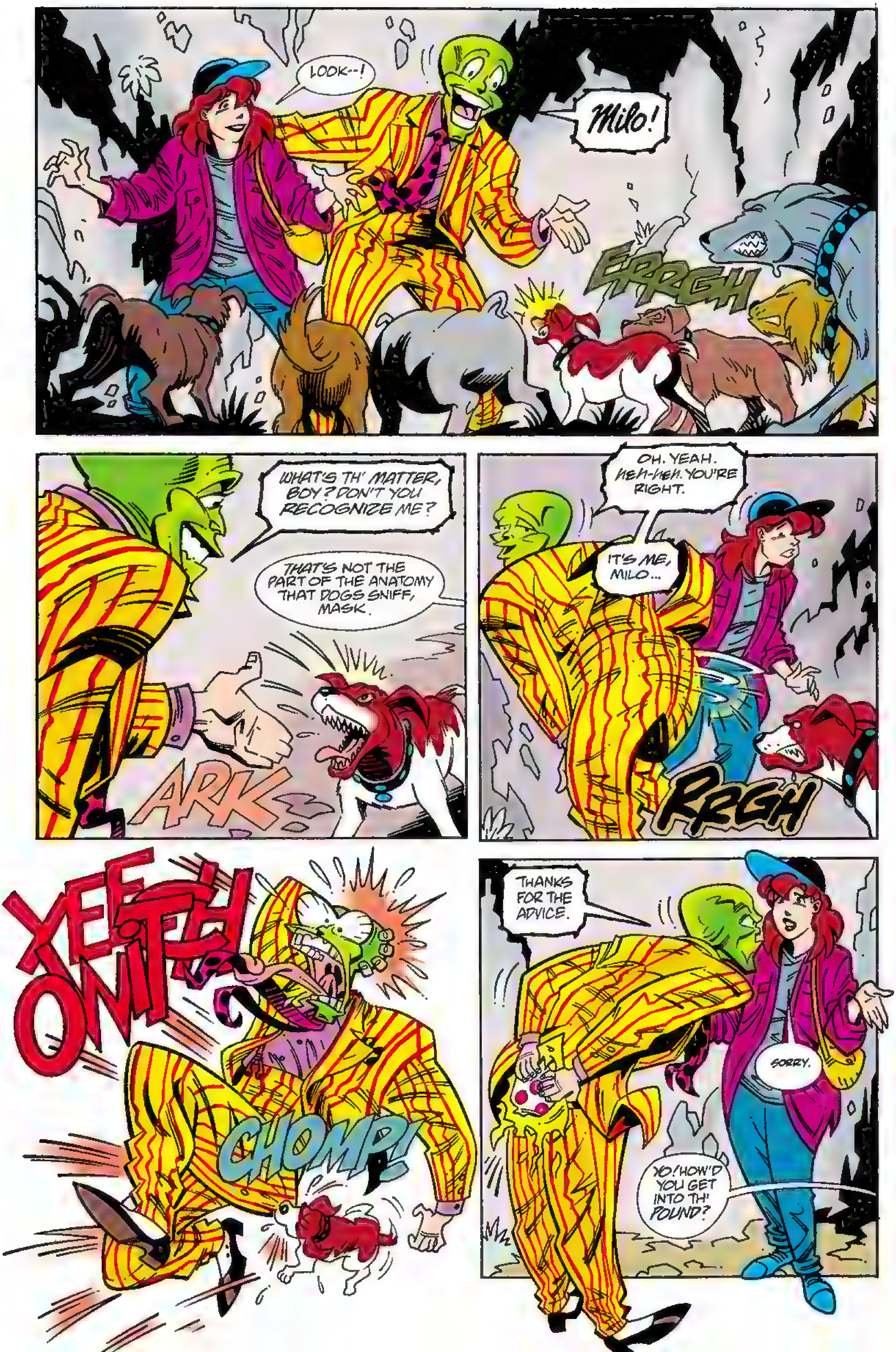
:WHEW: GLAD THAT'S OVER WITH.
There's no need to fear--
--DOGCATCHER-MASK IS HERE!
NET
MASTER'S SLIPPERS
Doggie Whistle
Bones
FRISBEE
--AND IF THE CANINE-LURING ARSENAL IN MY TRUSTY UTILITY BELT DOESN'T BRING MILO TO US--
--THEN THIS FOLD-OUT OF LASSIE OUGHTTA DO TH' TRICK!
HUBBA-HUBBA!
PLAYPOOCH
:HMPF! MEN!

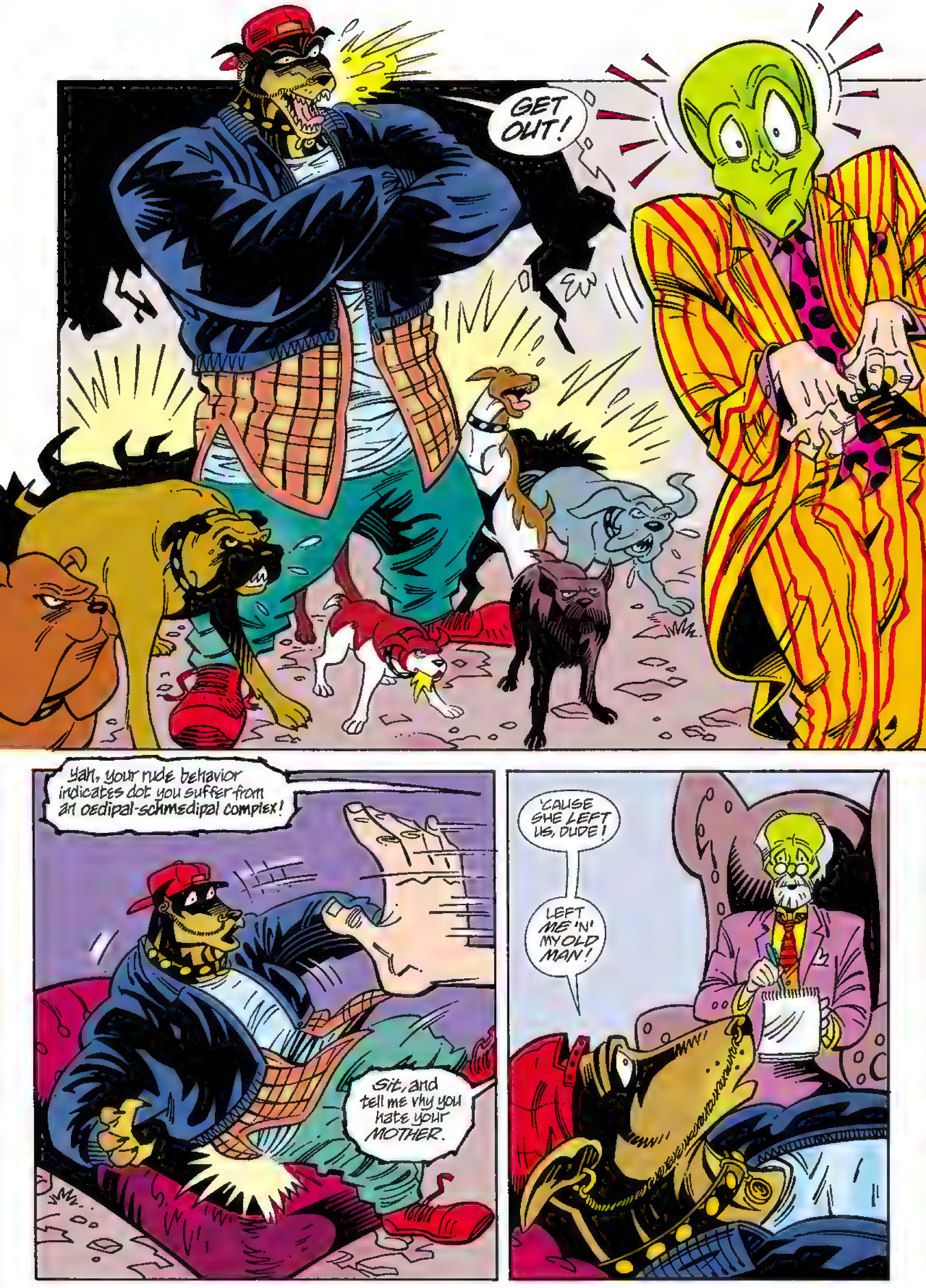

TO THE MUTTMOBILE, OLD CHUM!
MASK --WAIT FOR ME!
NO, NO, NO--NO SELF-RESPECTING, POOCH-SEARCHING SUPERHERO WOULD BE CAUGHT DEAD IN THIS LEMON.
NO
A NIP HERE AND A TUCK THERE--
FSHOOSH
--AND VOILÀ! THE PERFECT WHEELS!
MUTT MOBILE
HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
THINK YOU COULD CHANGE MY CHEVETTE TO A PORSCHE?
M
HOLD ON TO YOUR FLEAS, MILO, 'CAUSE HERE COMES PAPA!
HOW AM I DRIVING? 1-800-THE MASK
VROOOM!

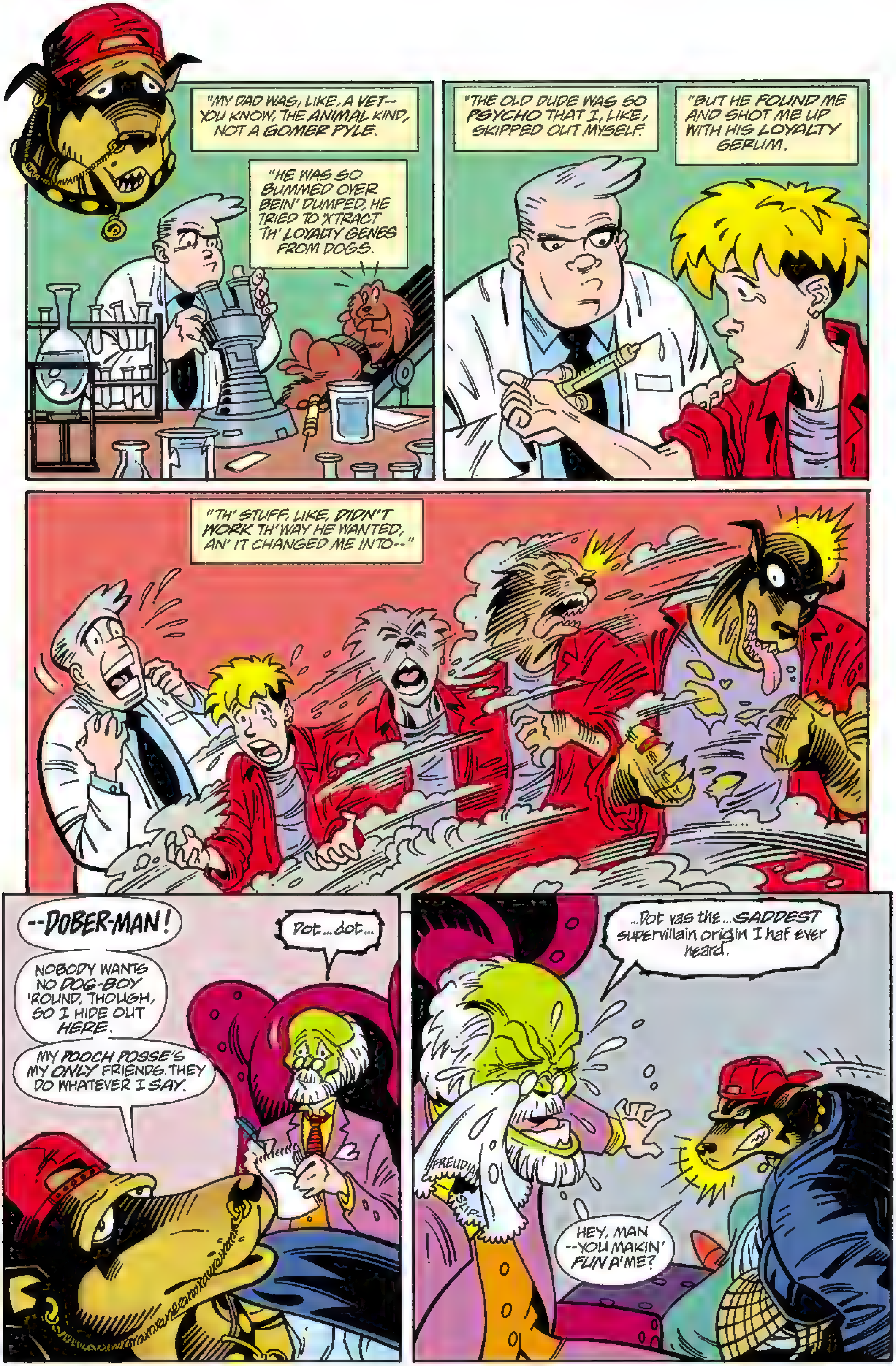

TOO BAD 'BOUT MR. IPKISS'S MISSING DOG.
DON'T FALL FOR THAT REPORTER'S SCAM, DOYLE. I'LL BET YOU DOLLARS TO DOUGHNUTS THAT IPKISS IS--
SCREECH
WHAT IN THE WORLD?!
IT'S THE MASK!
MUTT MOBILE
HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
SCREECH
YOU SAY SOMETHING ABOUT DOUGHNUTS, LIEUTENANT?
DOYLE!!
SHROOM
:KOFF-KOFF-KOFF! YOU CAN ADD AIR POLLUTION TO YOUR LIST OF CRIMES, MASK!
M
SKRAREECHK
WE LOST 'IM!
BUT I DON'T THINK HE'LL BE TOO HARD TO FIND.

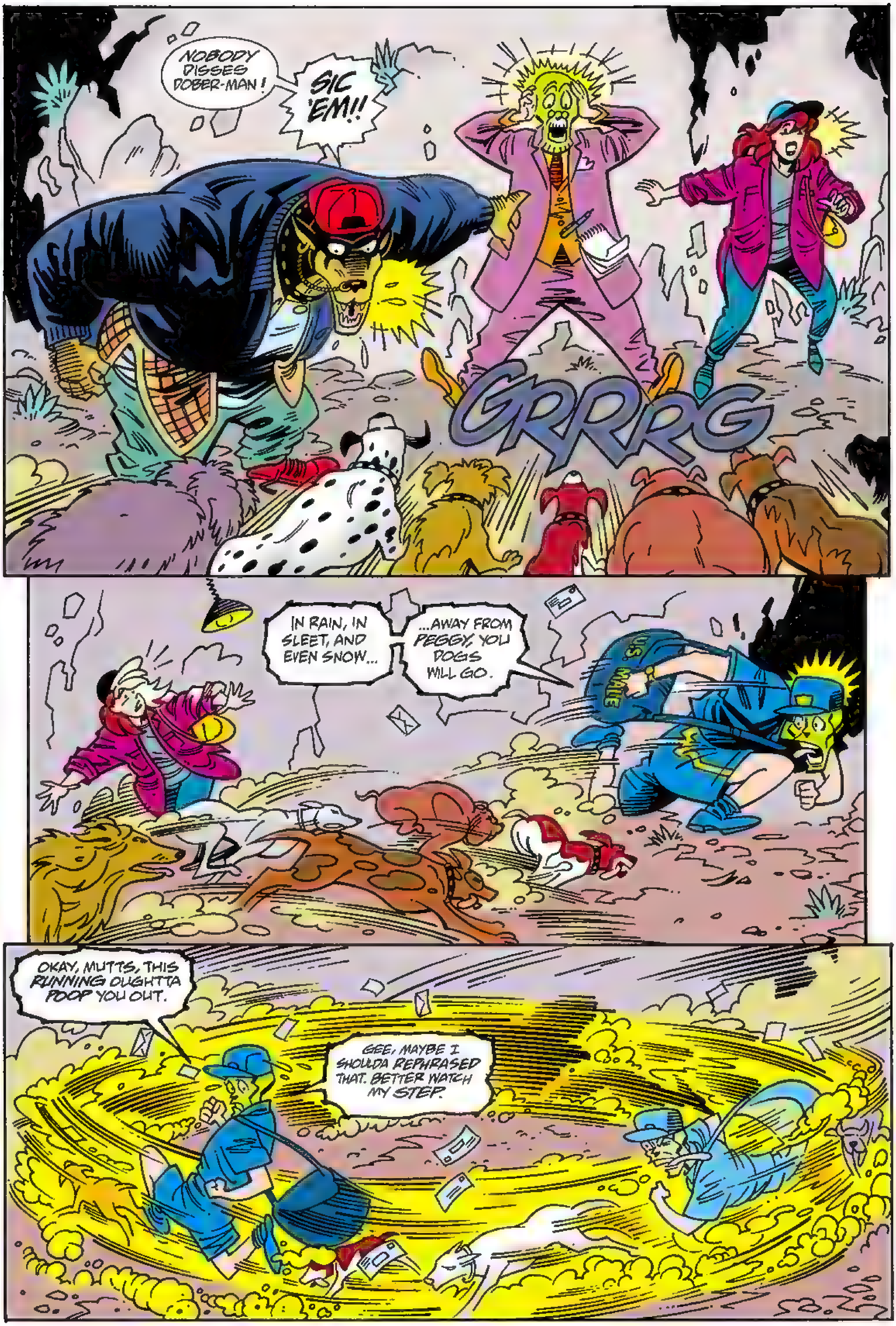

A DOG-EATING BUSH...TOO WEIRD.
SNIFF SNIFF
WHAT'S THIS...?
SNIFF SNIFF
SOME CARELESS PICNICKER LEFT A BONE HERE!
SOMEBODY OUGHTTA DO SOMETHING TO STOP THESE LITTERBUGS BEFORE THEY RUIN THE PARK!
HMM...
CHNK
HOW'S THAT FOR DETECTIVE WORK?
Well, uh., I noticed it too, but...but... I didn't want to show off.


WHAT'S THAT SMELL?
DON'T LOOK AT ME! I DIDN'T DO IT!
I'M SERIOUS, MASK. IT SMELLS LIKE --LIKE DOGS.
HOLY MOLEY, GARGONZOLI! CHECK IT OUT--!
LOOK AT ALL THESE POCKETBOOKS! IT'S LIKE BEING IN IMELDA MARCOS'S CLOSET!
HERE'S MINE!
NO MONEY, BUT EVERYTHING ELSE IS HERE!
uh, Peg--is your stomach growling?
GRRR
YIKE!

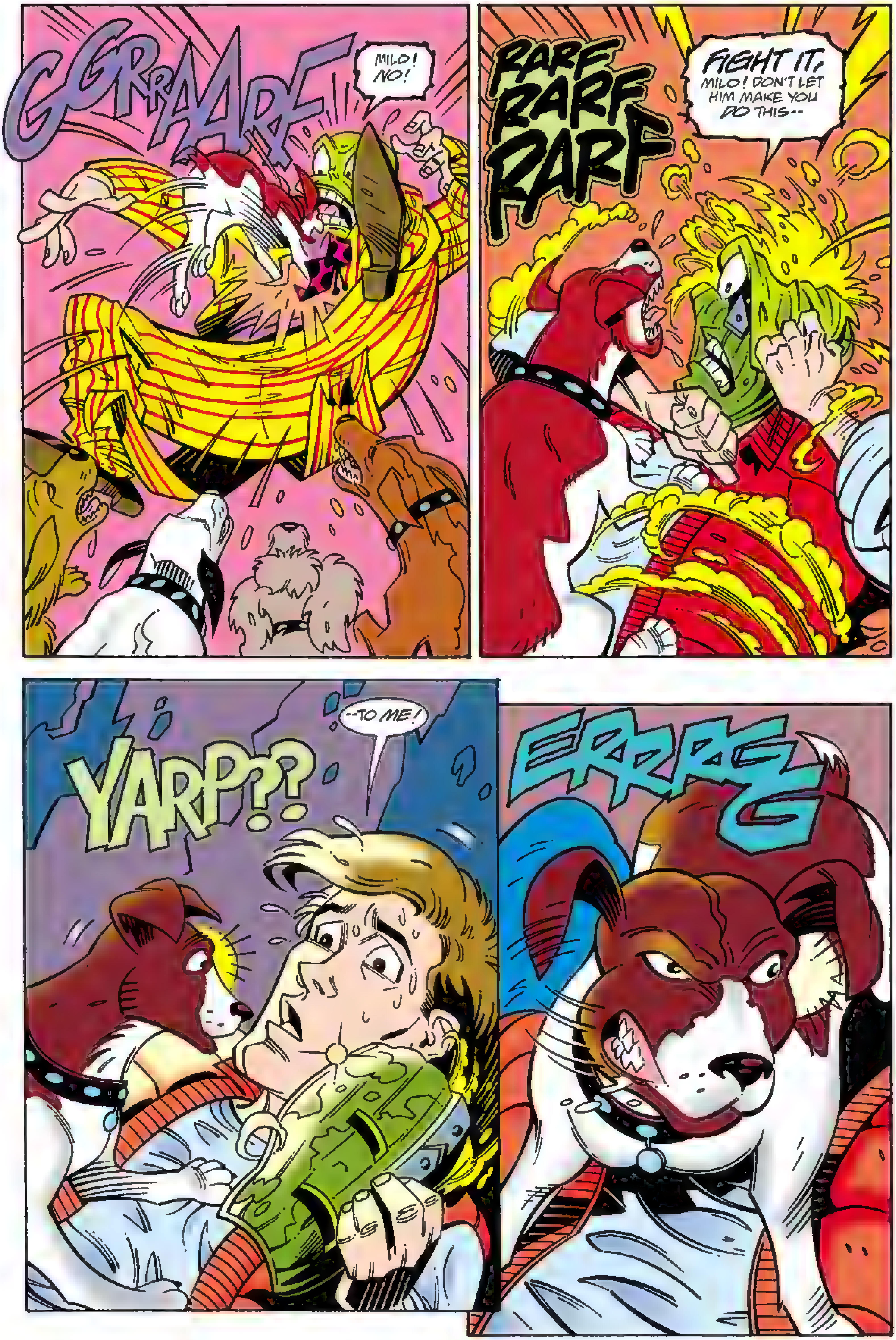

LOOK--!
Milo!
ERRGH
WHAT'S TH' MATTER, BOY? DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
THAT'S NOT THE PART OF THE ANATOMY THAT DOGS SNIFF, MASK.
ARK
OH. YEAH. HEH-HEH. YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT'S ME, MILO...
RRGH
YEEOWITCH!
CHOMP!
THANKS FOR THE ADVICE.
SORRY.
YO! HOW'D YOU GET INTO TH' POUND?

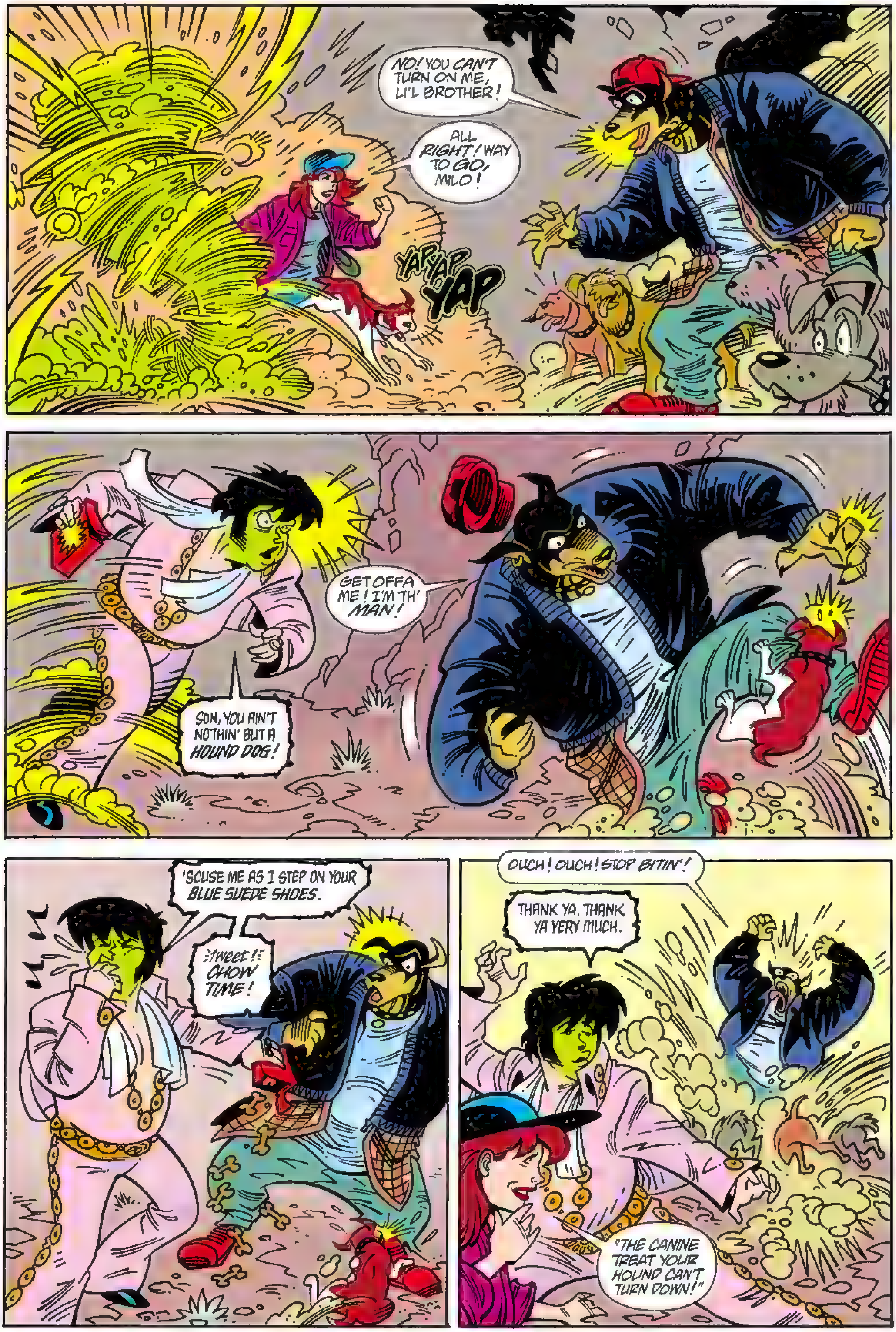

GET OUT!
Yah, your rude behavior indicates dot you suffer from an oedipal-schmedipal complex!
Sit, and tell me vhy you hate your MOTHER.
'CAUSE SHE LEFT US, DUDE!
LEFT ME 'N' MY OLD MAN!

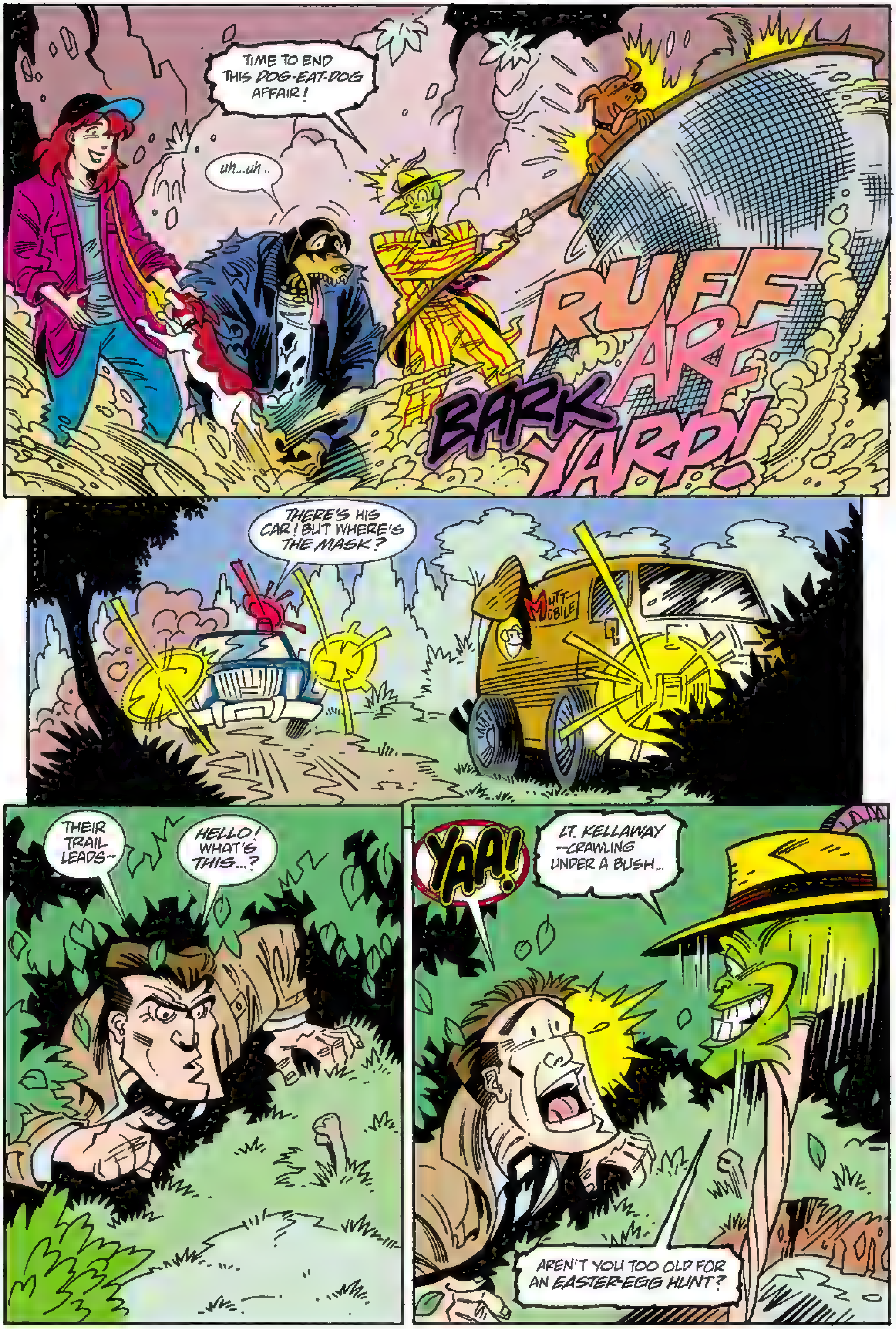

"MY DAD WAS, LIKE, A VET-- YOU KNOW, THE ANIMAL KIND, NOT A GOMER PYLE.
"HE WAS SO BUMMED OVER BEIN' DUMPED, HE TRIED TO 'XTRACT TH' LOYALTY GENES FROM DOGS.
"THE OLD DUDE WAS SO PSYCHO THAT I, LIKE, SKIPPED OUT MYSELF.
"BUT HE FOUND ME AND SHOT ME UP WITH HIS LOYALTY SERUM.
"TH' STUFF, LIKE, DIDN'T WORK TH' WAY HE WANTED, AN' IT CHANGED ME INTO--"
--DOBER-MAN!
NOBODY WANTS NO DOG-BOY 'ROUND, THOUGH, SO I HIDE OUT HERE.
MY POOCH POSSE'S MY ONLY FRIENDS. THEY DO WHATEVER I SAY.
Dot...dot...
...Dot vas the...SADDEST supervillain origin I haf ever heard.
FREUDIAN SLIP
HEY, MAN --YOU MAKIN' FUN A' ME?

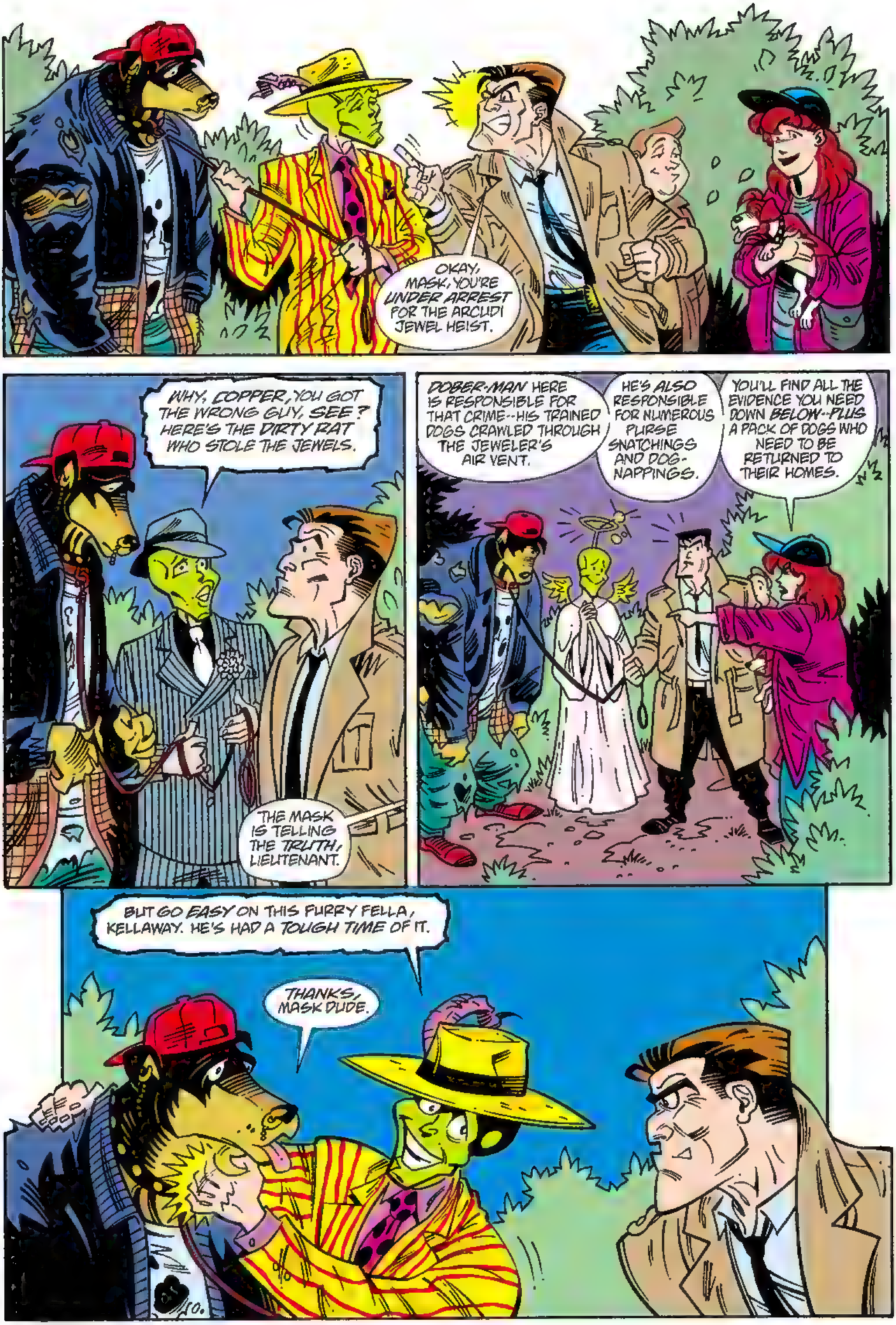

NOBODY DISSES DOBER-MAN!
SIC 'EM!!
GRRRG
IN RAIN, IN SLEET, AND EVEN SNOW...
...AWAY FROM PEGGY, YOU DOGS WILL GO.
U.S. MAIL
OKAY, MUTTS, THIS RUNNING OUGHTTA POOP YOU OUT.
GEE, MAYBE I SHOULDA REPHRASED THAT. BETTER WATCH MY STEP.

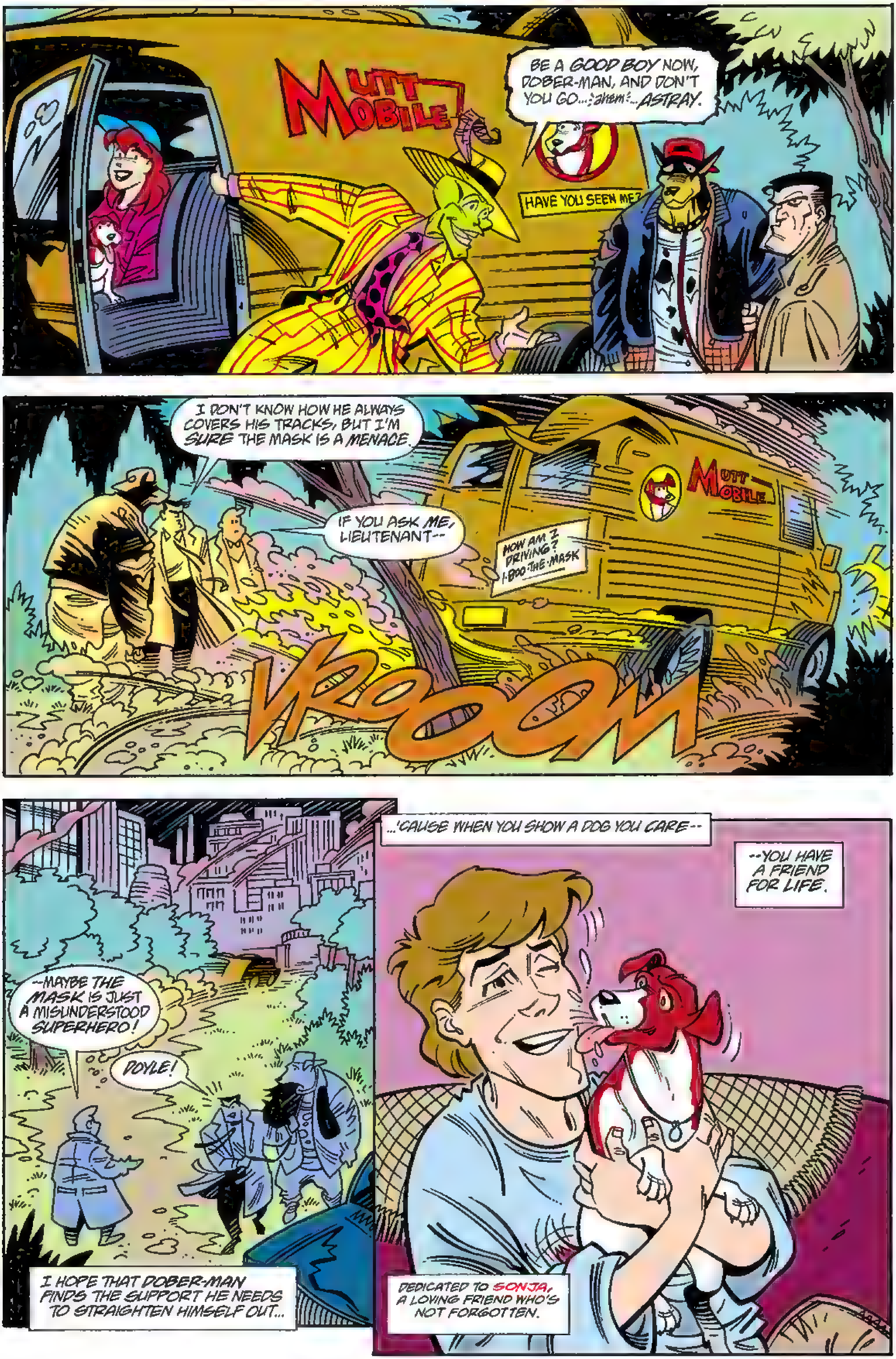
U.S. MALE
YOU GOIN' DOWN, GEEK!
KA-POW
OUCH! CUJO'S BEEN WORKING OUT!
SMOKE 'IM! TEAR TH' FREAK APART!!
YIP
GRR
ARF ARF


GGRRAARF
MILO! NO!
RARF RARF RARF
FIGHT IT, MILO! DON'T LET HIM MAKE YOU DO THIS--
YARP??
--TO ME!
ERRRGG


NO! YOU CAN'T TURN ON ME, LI'L BROTHER!
ALL RIGHT! WAY TO GO, MILO!
YAP YAP YAP
GET OFFA ME! I'M TH' MAN!
SON, YOU AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A HOUND DOG!
'SCUSE ME AS I STEP ON YOUR BLUE SUEDE SHOES.
:tweet!: CHOW TIME!
OUCH! OUCH! STOP BITIN'!
THANK YA. THANK YA VERY MUCH.
"THE CANINE TREAT YOUR HOUND CAN'T TURN DOWN!"


TIME TO END THIS *DOG-EAT-DOG* AFFAIR!
uh...uh..
RUFF ARF BARK YARP!
THERE'S HIS CAR! BUT WHERE'S *THE MASK?*
MUTT-MOBILE
THEIR TRAIL LEADS--
HELLO! WHAT'S THIS...?
YAA!
LT. KELLAWAY --CRAWLING UNDER A BUSH...
AREN'T YOU TOO OLD FOR AN *EASTER-EGG HUNT?*


OKAY, MASK, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR THE ARCUDI JEWEL HEIST.
WHY, COPPER, YOU GOT THE WRONG GUY, SEE? HERE'S THE DIRTY RAT WHO STOLE THE JEWELS.
THE MASK IS TELLING THE TRUTH, LIEUTENANT.
DOBER-MAN HERE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT CRIME--HIS TRAINED DOGS CRAWLED THROUGH THE JEWELER'S AIR VENT.
HE'S ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR NUMEROUS PURSE SNATCHINGS AND DOG-NAPPINGS.
YOU'LL FIND ALL THE EVIDENCE YOU NEED DOWN BELOW--PLUS A PACK OF DOGS WHO NEED TO BE RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES.
BUT GO EASY ON THIS FURRY FELLA, KELLAWAY. HE'S HAD A TOUGH TIME OF IT.
THANKS, MASK DUDE.


MUTT MOBILE
BE A GOOD BOY NOW, DOBER-MAN, AND DON'T YOU GO...;ahem;...ASTRAY.
HAVE YOU SEEN ME?
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE ALWAYS COVERS HIS TRACKS, BUT I'M SURE THE MASK IS A MENACE.
IF YOU ASK ME, LIEUTENANT--
MUTT MOBILE
HOW AM I DRIVING? 1-800-THE-MASK
VROOOM
--MAYBE THE MASK IS JUST A MISUNDERSTOOD SUPERHERO!
DOYLE!
I HOPE THAT DOBER-MAN FINDS THE SUPPORT HE NEEDS TO STRAIGHTEN HIMSELF OUT...
...'CAUSE WHEN YOU SHOW A DOG YOU CARE--
--YOU HAVE A FRIEND FOR LIFE.
DEDICATED TO SONJA, A LOVING FRIEND WHO'S NOT FORGOTTEN.

POW RIGHT FROM THE KISSER!
B.T.

script
MICHAEL EURY

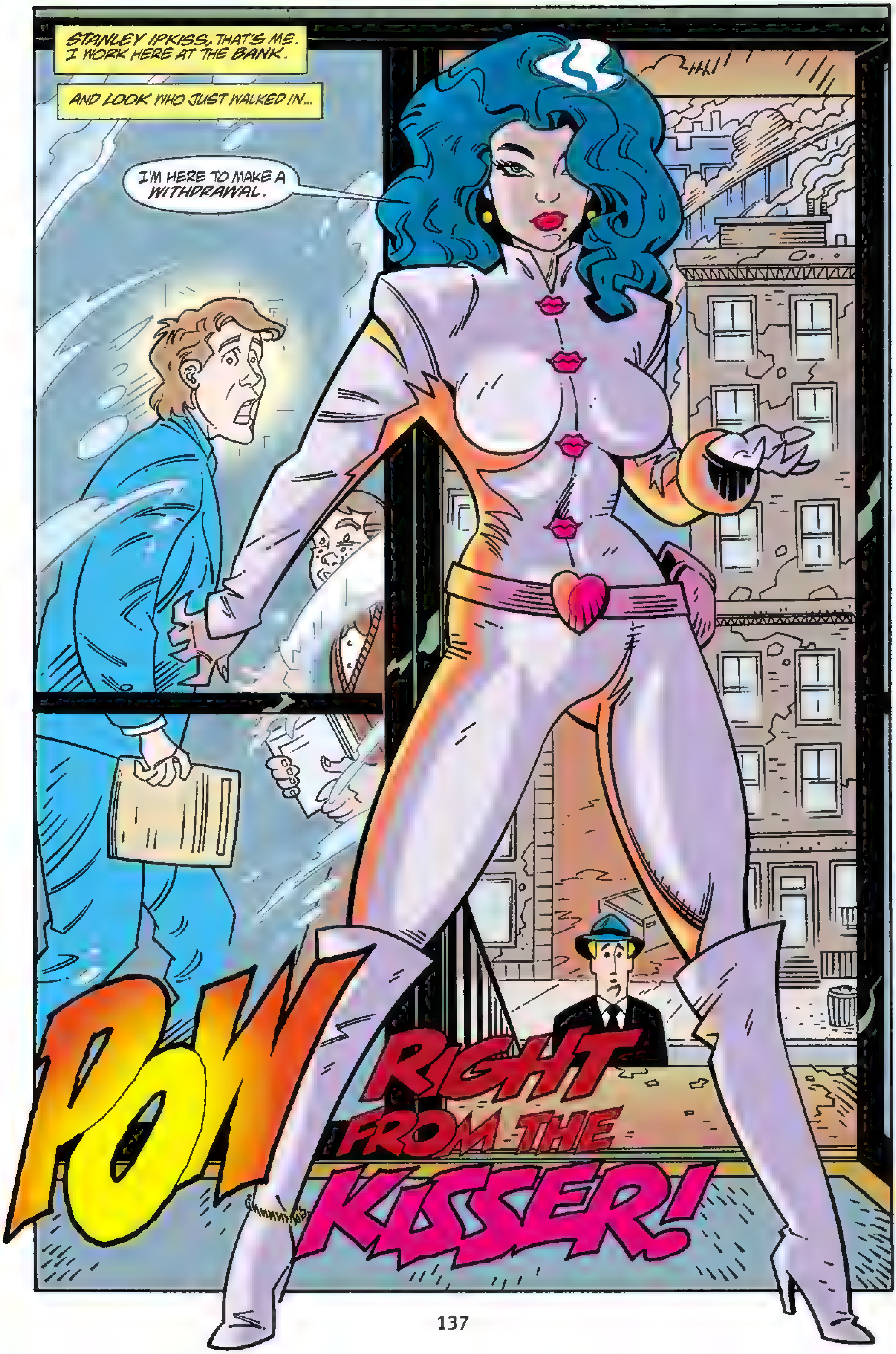
pencils
NEIL VOKES

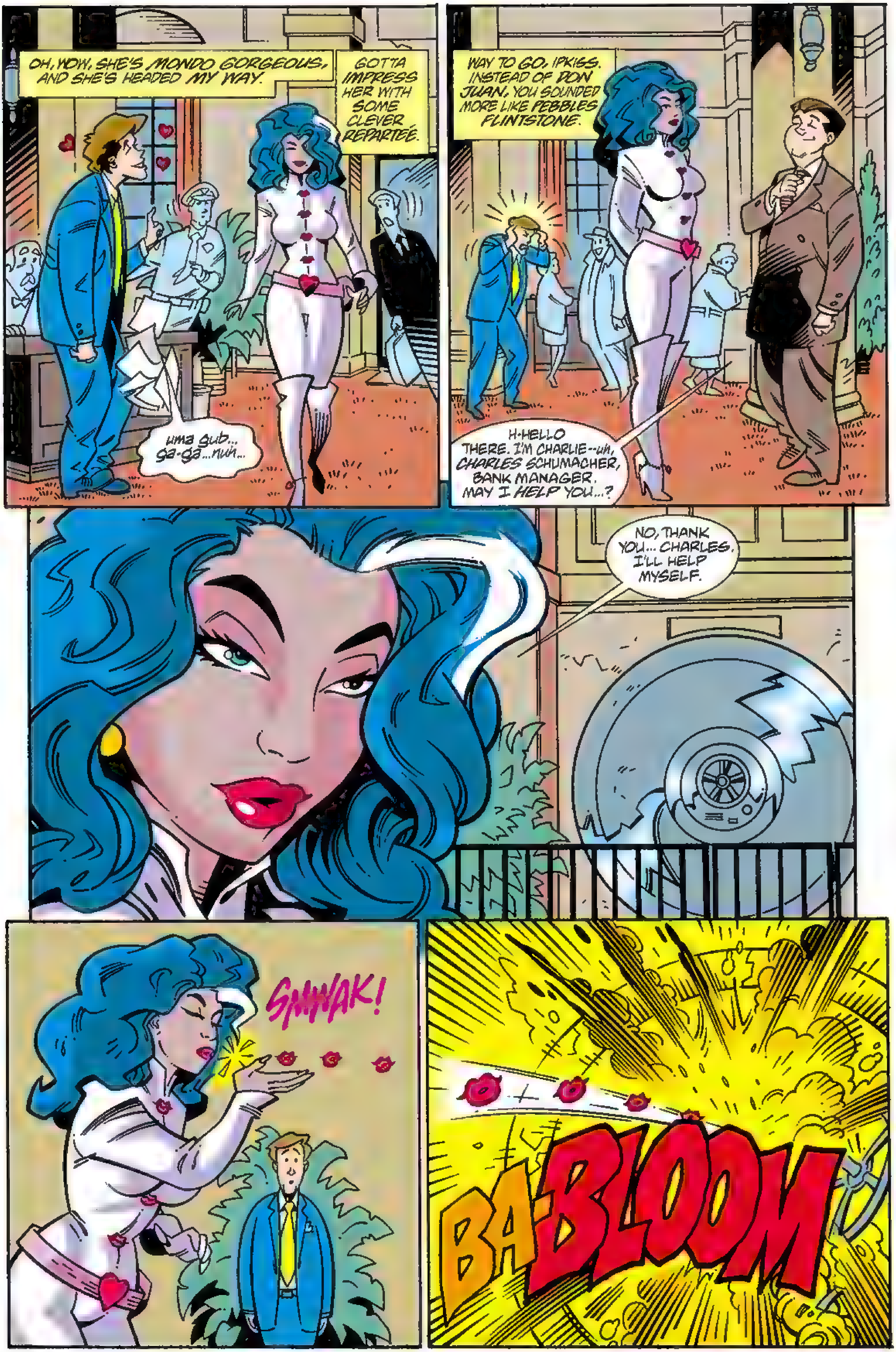
inks
JAY GELDHOF

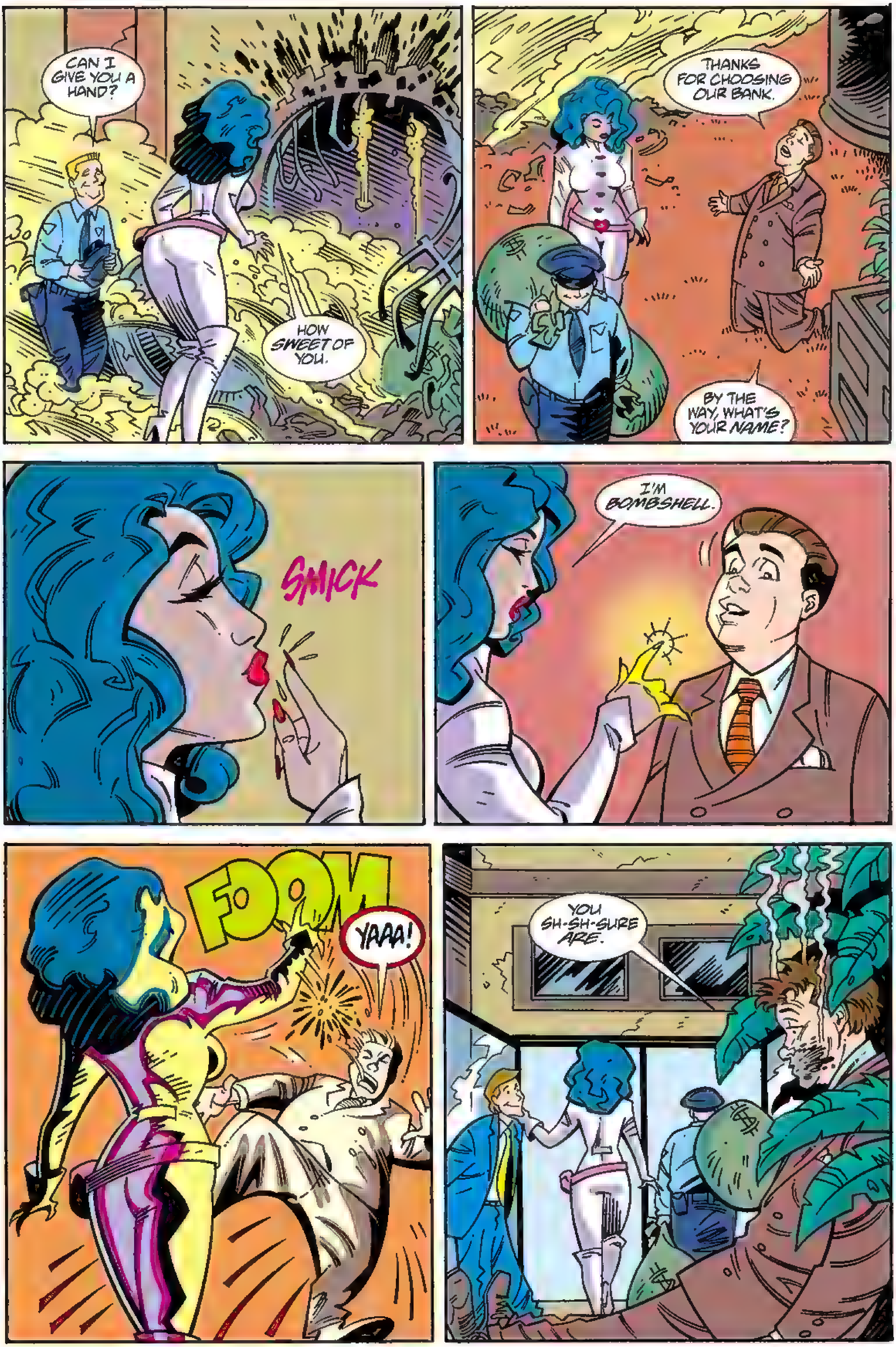
colors
MATT WEBB

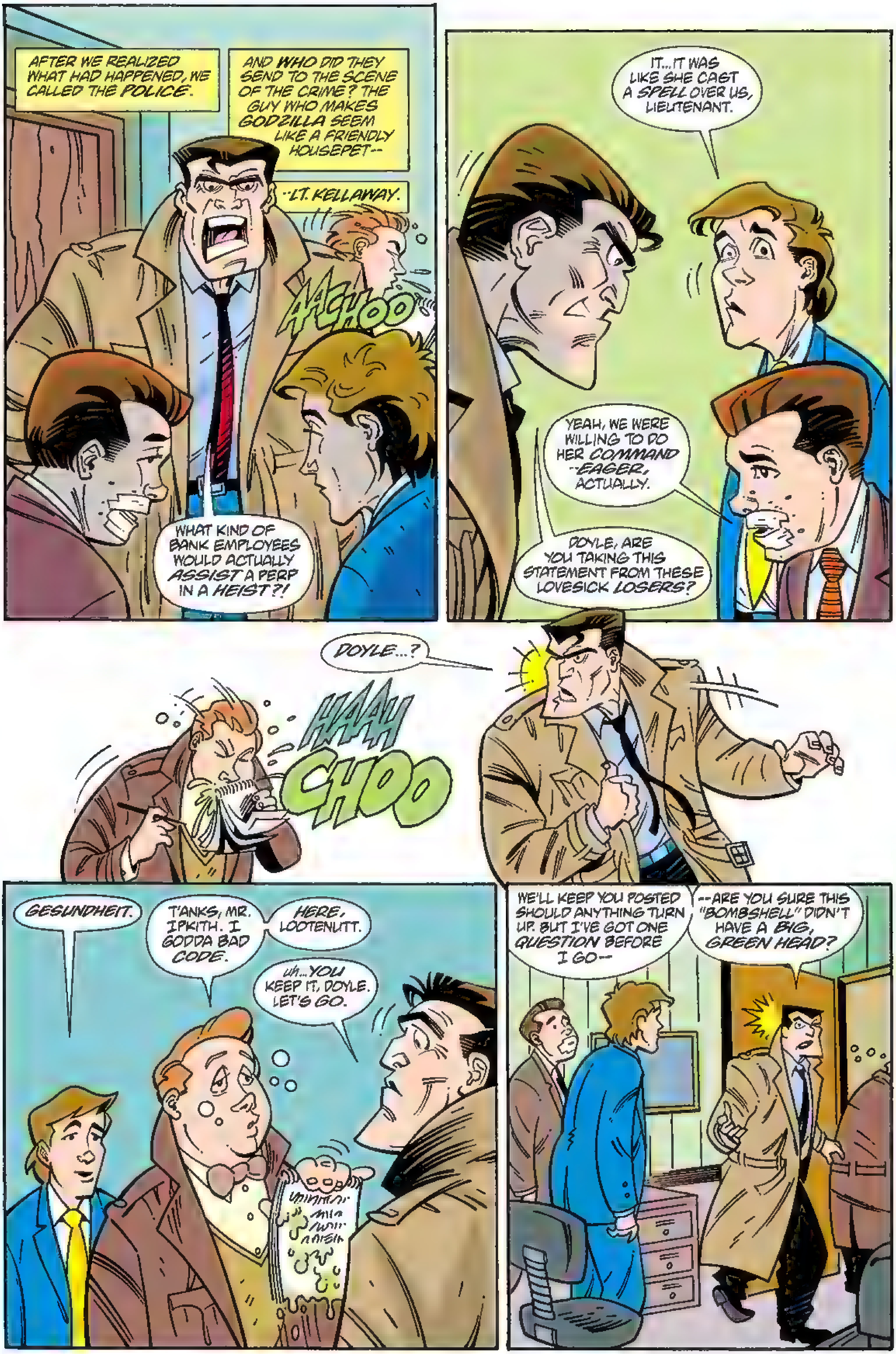
lettering
CLEM ROBINS

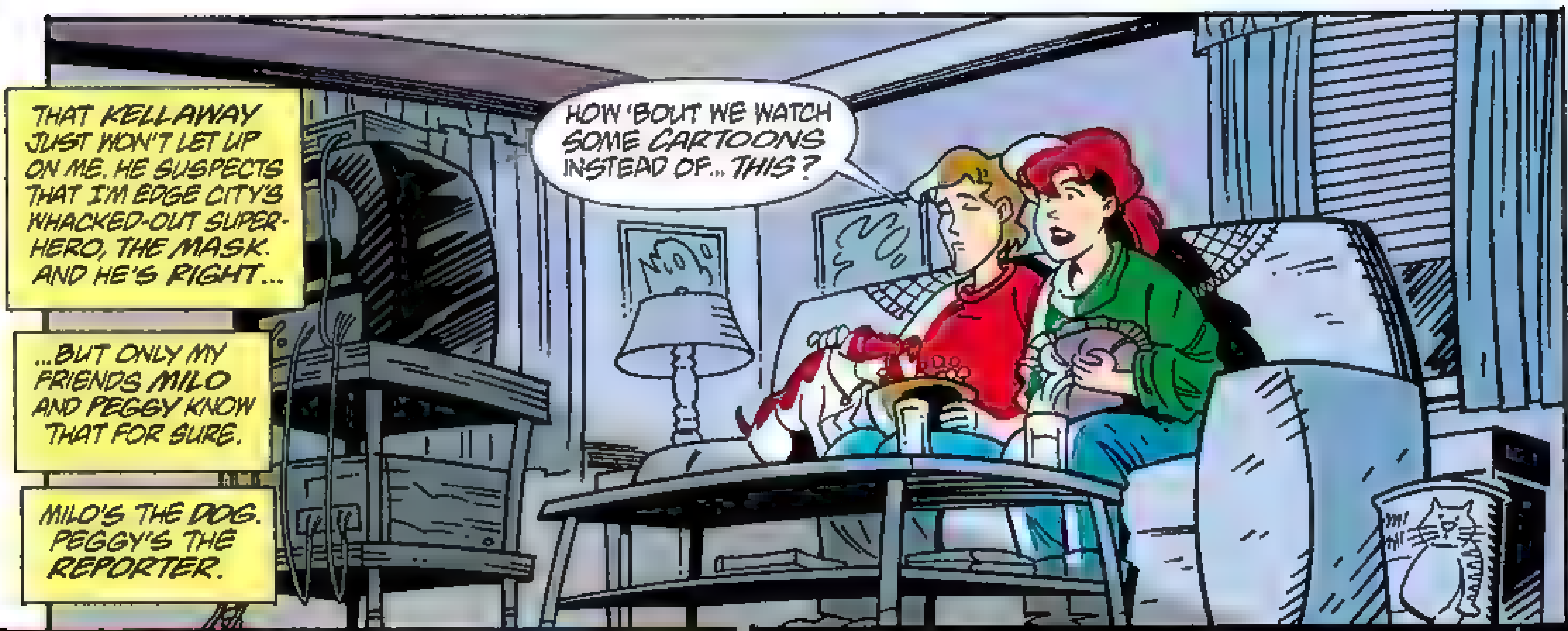
title illustration
BRUCE TIMM

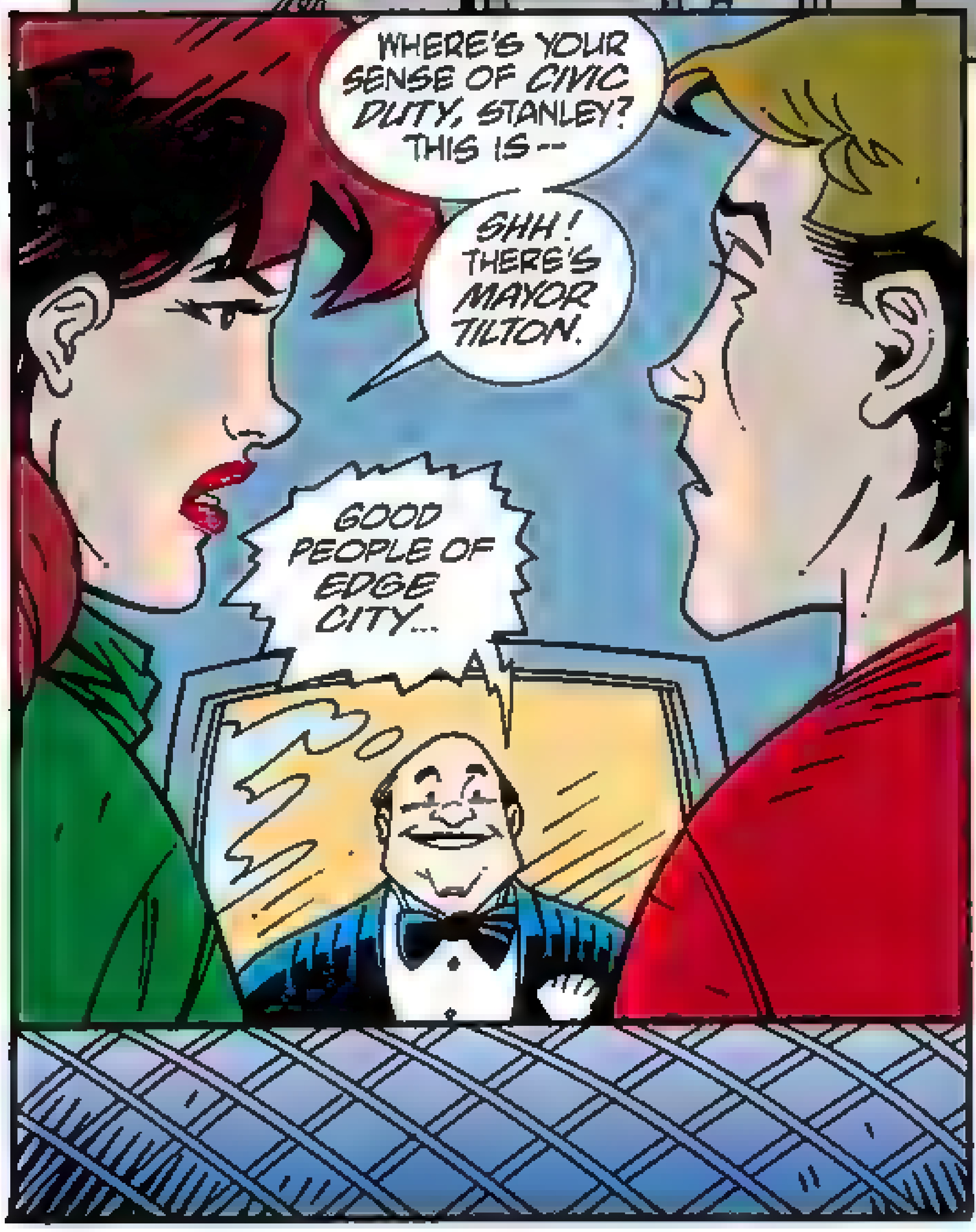

STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME. I WORK HERE AT THE BANK.
AND LOOK WHO JUST WALKED IN...
I'M HERE TO MAKE A WITHDRAWAL.
POW
RIGHT FROM THE KISSER!

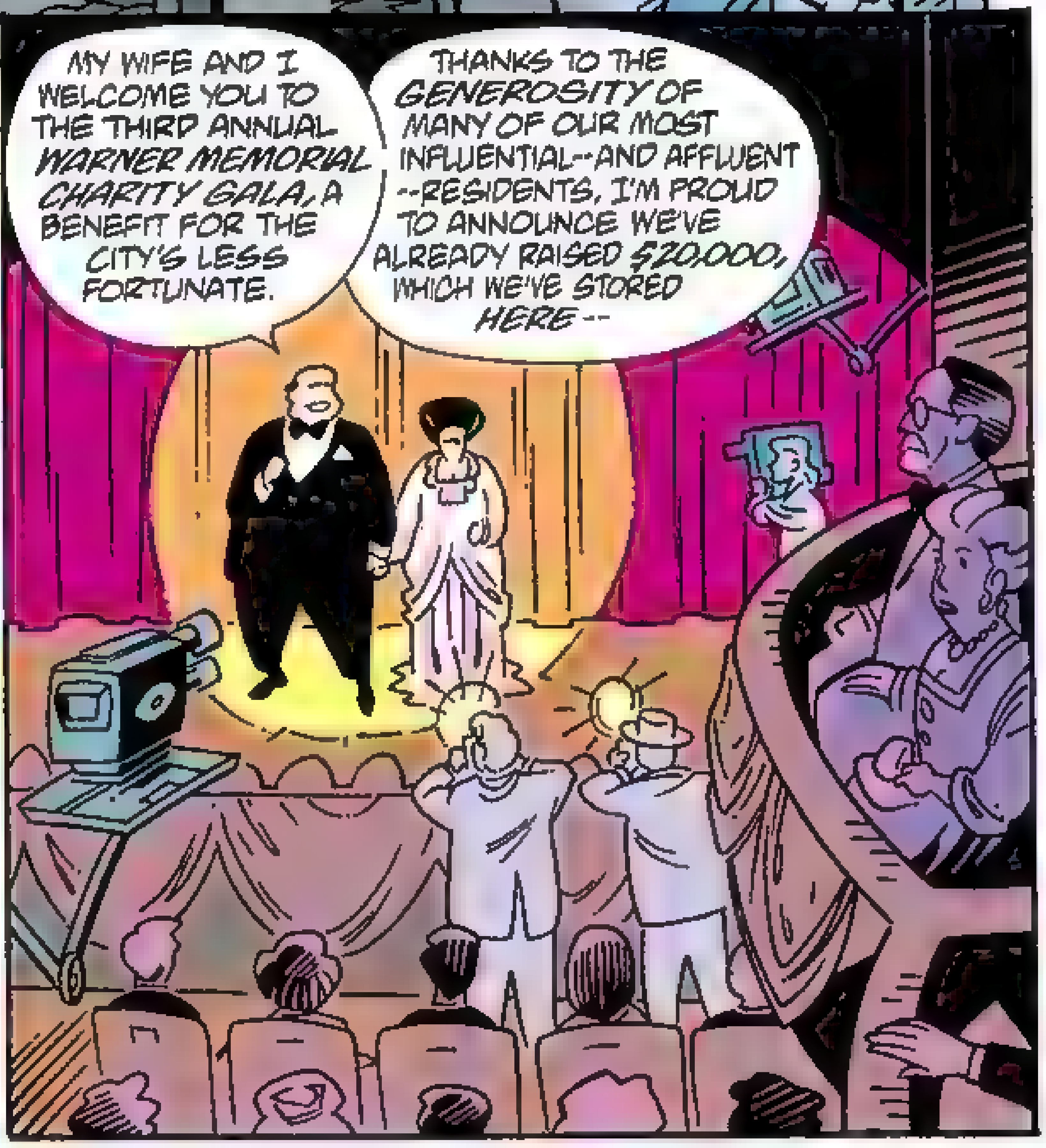

OH, WOW, SHE'S MONDO GORGEOUS, AND SHE'S HEADED MY WAY.
GOTTA IMPRESS HER WITH SOME CLEVER REPARTEE.
uma gub... ga-ga...nuh...
WAY TO GO, IPKISS. INSTEAD OF DON JUAN, YOU SOUNDED MORE LIKE PEBBLES FLINTSTONE.
H-HELLO THERE. I'M CHARLIE--uh, CHARLES SCHUMACHER, BANK MANAGER. MAY I HELP YOU...?
NO, THANK YOU... CHARLES. I'LL HELP MYSELF.
SMWAK!
BA-BLOOM

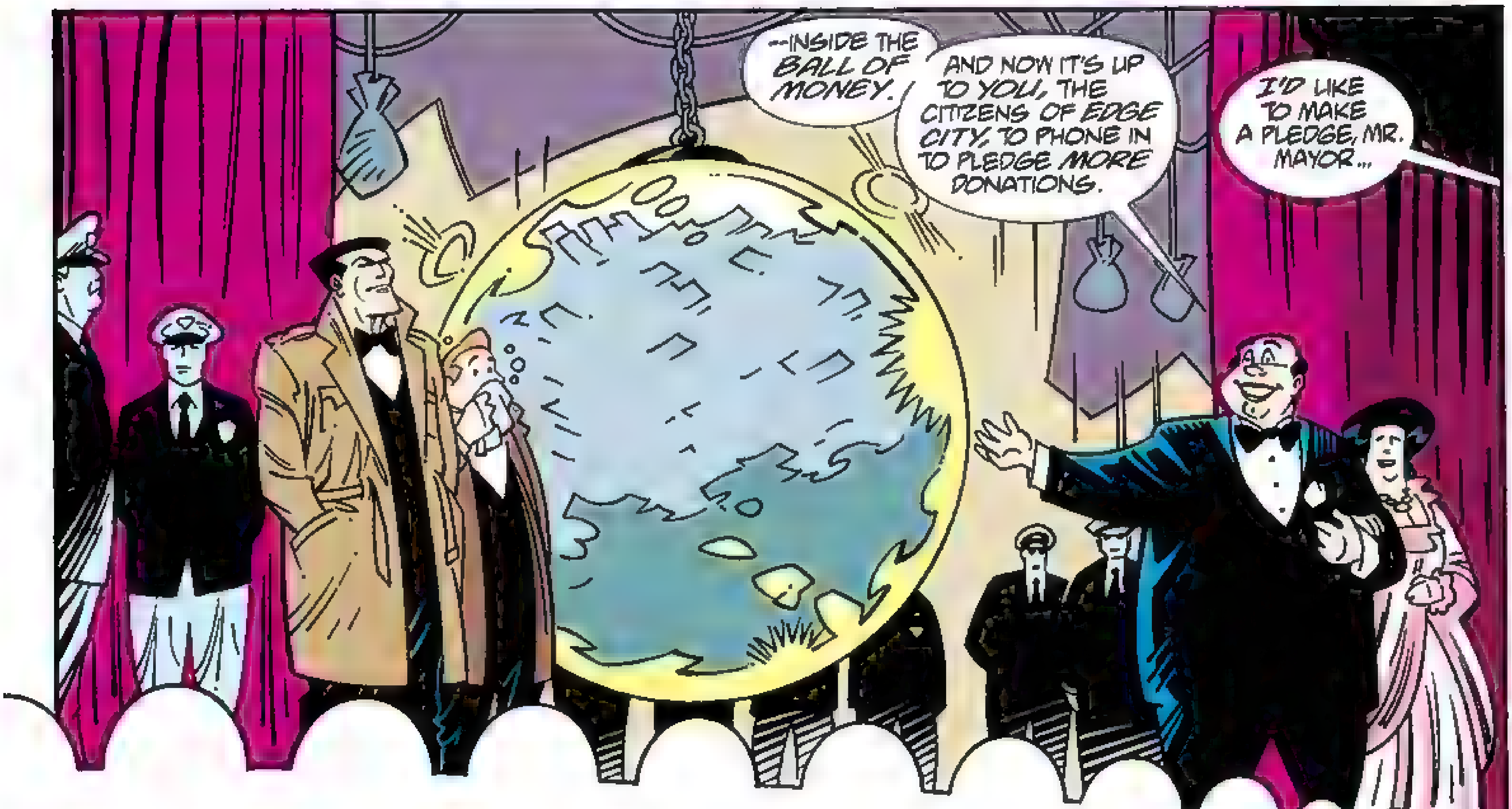

CAN I GIVE YOU A HAND?
HOW SWEET OF YOU.
THANKS FOR CHOOSING OUR BANK.
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
SMICK
I'M BOMBSHELL.
FOOM
YAAA!
YOU SH-SH-SURE ARE.

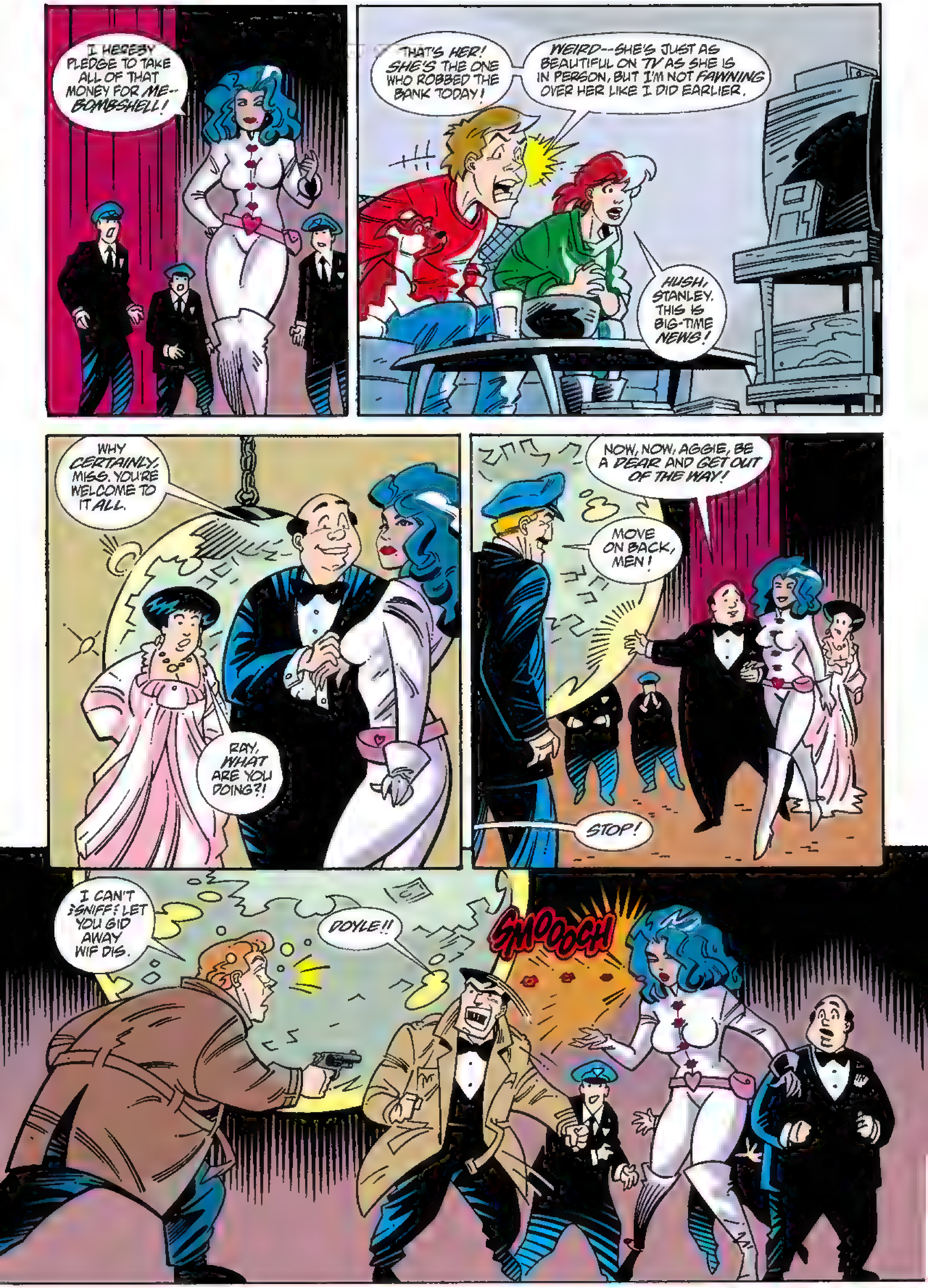

AFTER WE REALIZED WHAT HAD HAPPENED, WE CALLED THE POLICE.
AND WHO DID THEY SEND TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME? THE GUY WHO MAKES GODZILLA SEEM LIKE A FRIENDLY HOUSEPET--
--LT. KELLAWAY.
AACHOO
WHAT KIND OF BANK EMPLOYEES WOULD ACTUALLY ASSIST A PERP IN A HEIST?!
IT... IT WAS LIKE SHE CAST A SPELL OVER US, LIEUTENANT.
YEAH, WE WERE WILLING TO DO HER COMMAND --EAGER, ACTUALLY.
DOYLE, ARE YOU TAKING THIS STATEMENT FROM THESE LOVESICK LOSERS?
DOYLE...?
HAAAH CHOO
GESUNDHEIT.
T'ANKS, MR. IPKITH. I GODDA BAD CODE.
HERE, LOOTENUTT.
uh...YOU KEEP IT, DOYLE. LET'S GO.
WE'LL KEEP YOU POSTED SHOULD ANYTHING TURN UP. BUT I'VE GOT ONE QUESTION BEFORE I GO--
--ARE YOU SURE THIS "BOMBSHELL" DIDN'T HAVE A BIG, GREEN HEAD?

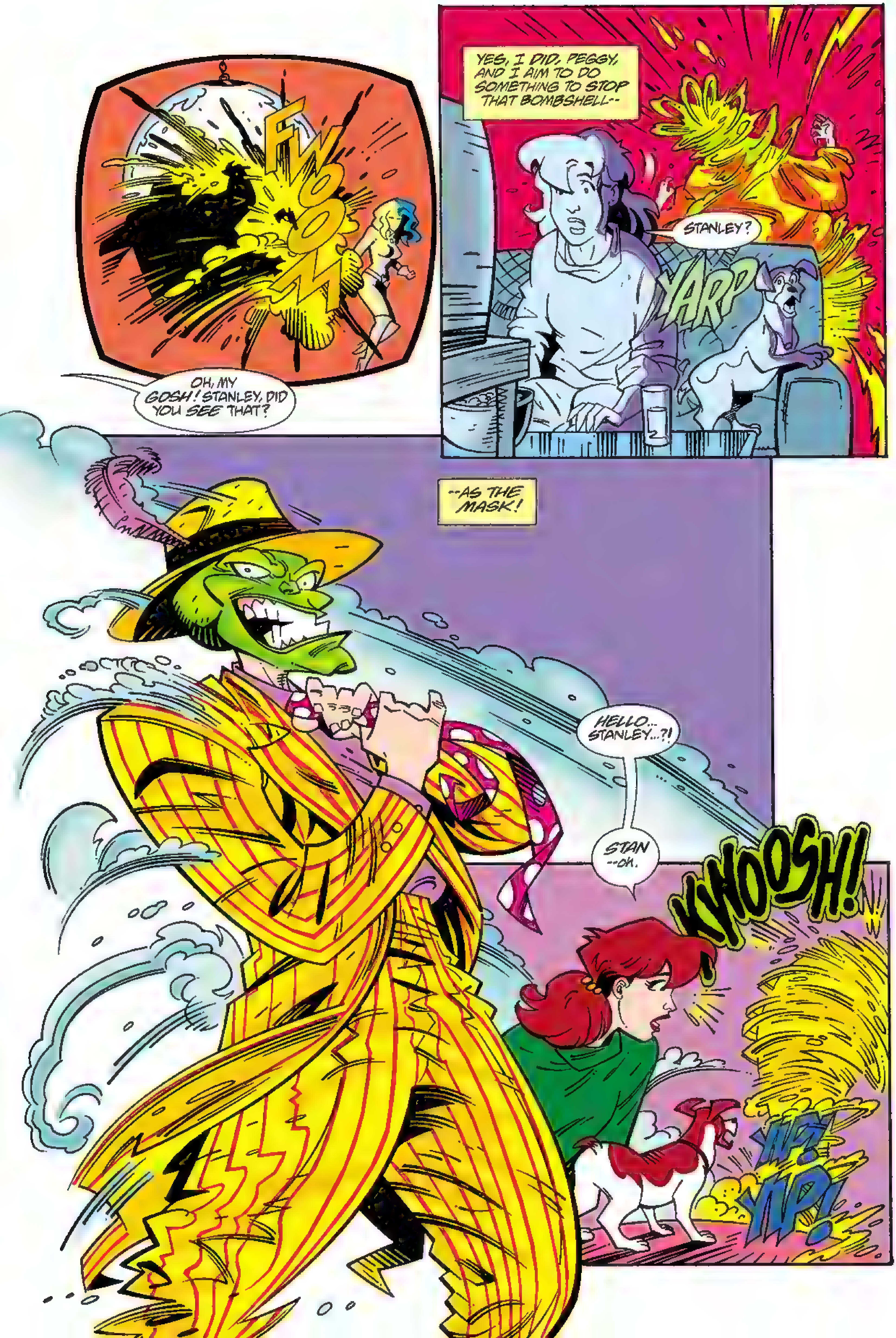

THAT KELLAWAY JUST WON'T LET UP ON ME. HE SUSPECTS THAT I'M EDGE CITY'S WHACKED-OUT SUPER-HERO, THE MASK. AND HE'S RIGHT...
...BUT ONLY MY FRIENDS MILO AND PEGGY KNOW THAT FOR SURE.
MILO'S THE DOG. PEGGY'S THE REPORTER.
HOW 'BOUT WE WATCH SOME CARTOONS INSTEAD OF... THIS?

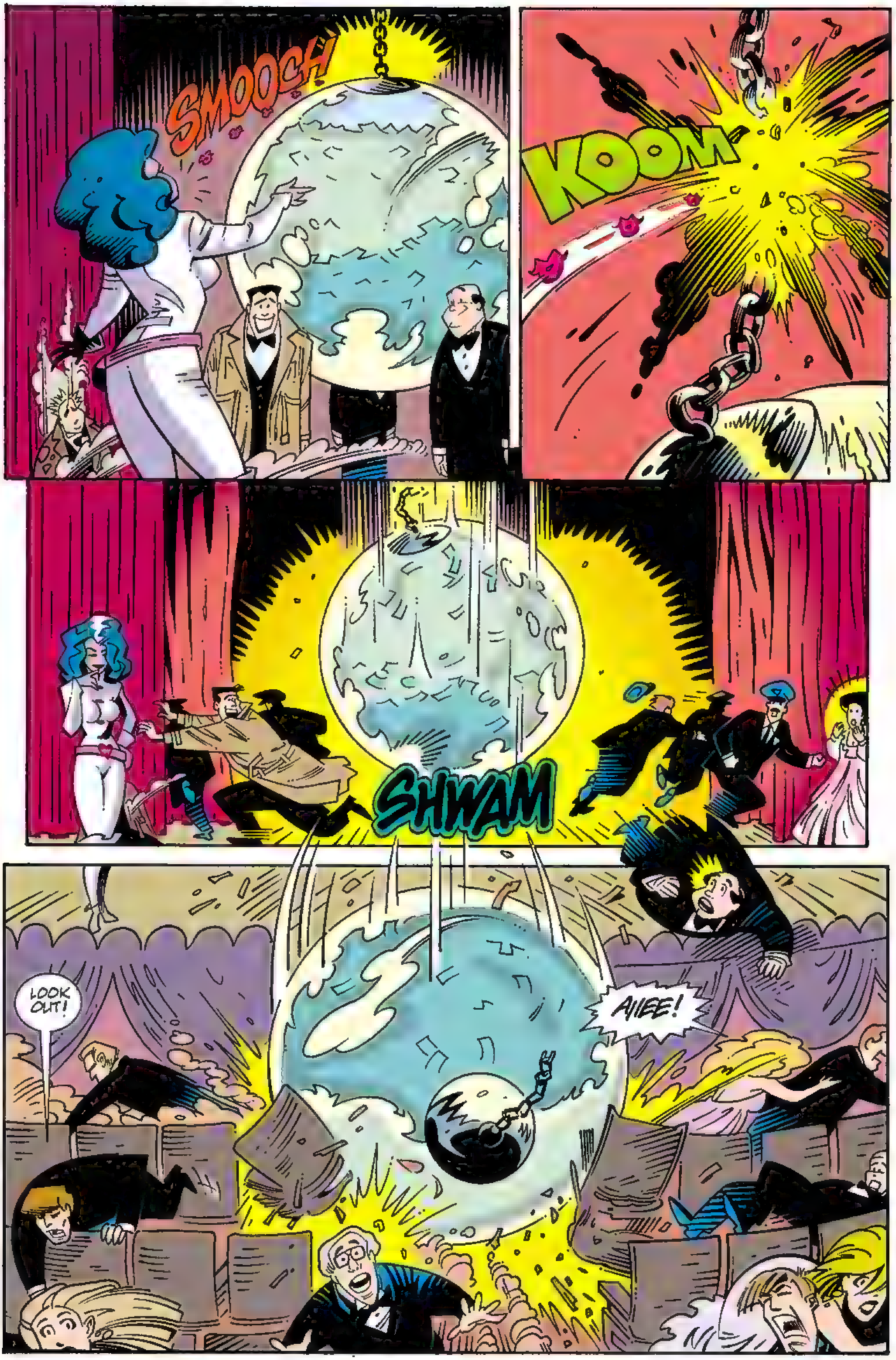

WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF CIVIC DUTY, STANLEY? THIS IS --
SHH! THERE'S MAYOR TILTON.
GOOD PEOPLE OF EDGE CITY...

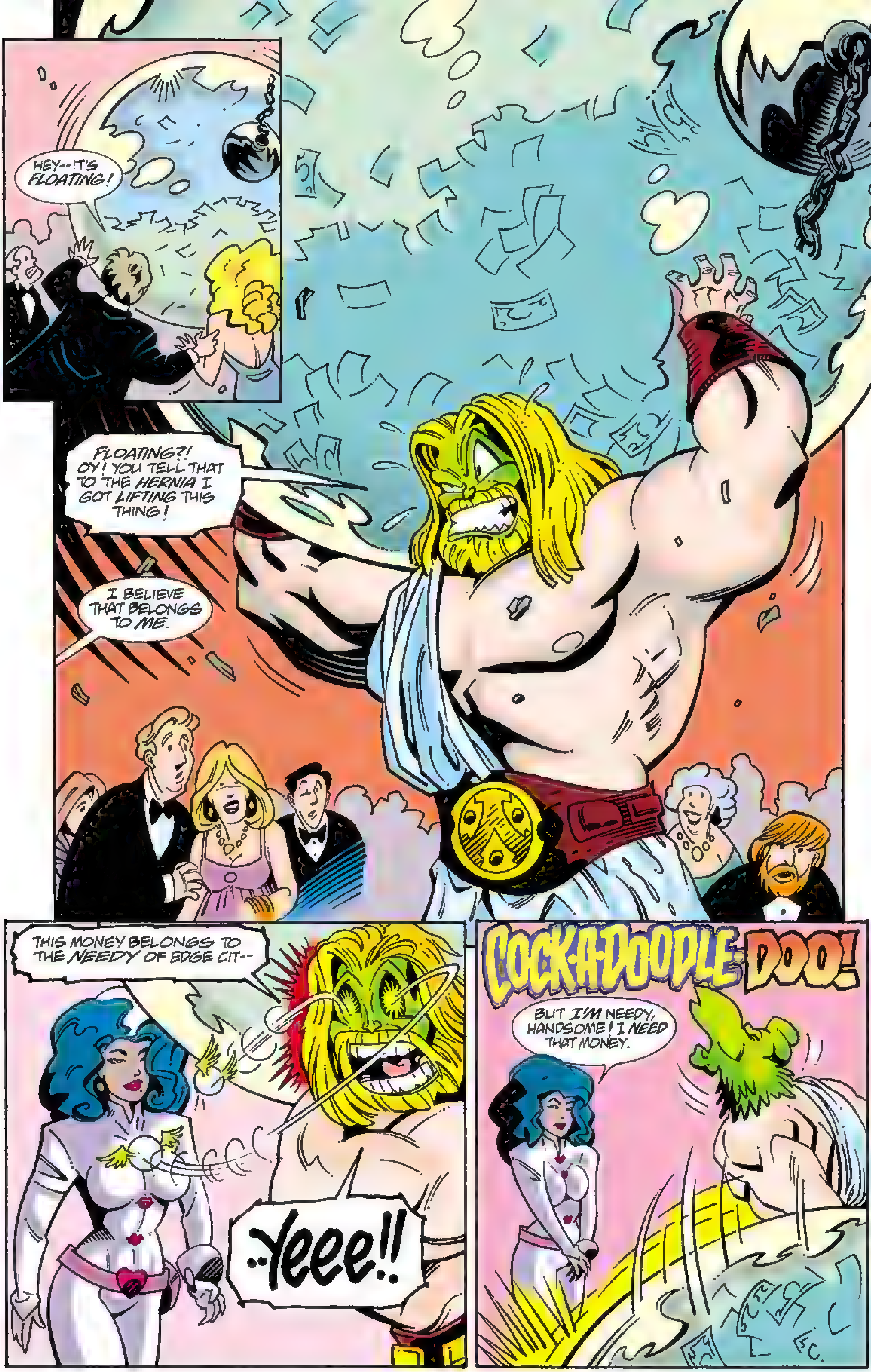

MY WIFE AND I WELCOME YOU TO THE THIRD ANNUAL WARNER MEMORIAL CHARITY GALA, A BENEFIT FOR THE CITY'S LESS FORTUNATE.
THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF MANY OF OUR MOST INFLUENTIAL--AND AFFLUENT--RESIDENTS, I'M PROUD TO ANNOUNCE WE'VE ALREADY RAISED $20,000, WHICH WE'VE STORED HERE --

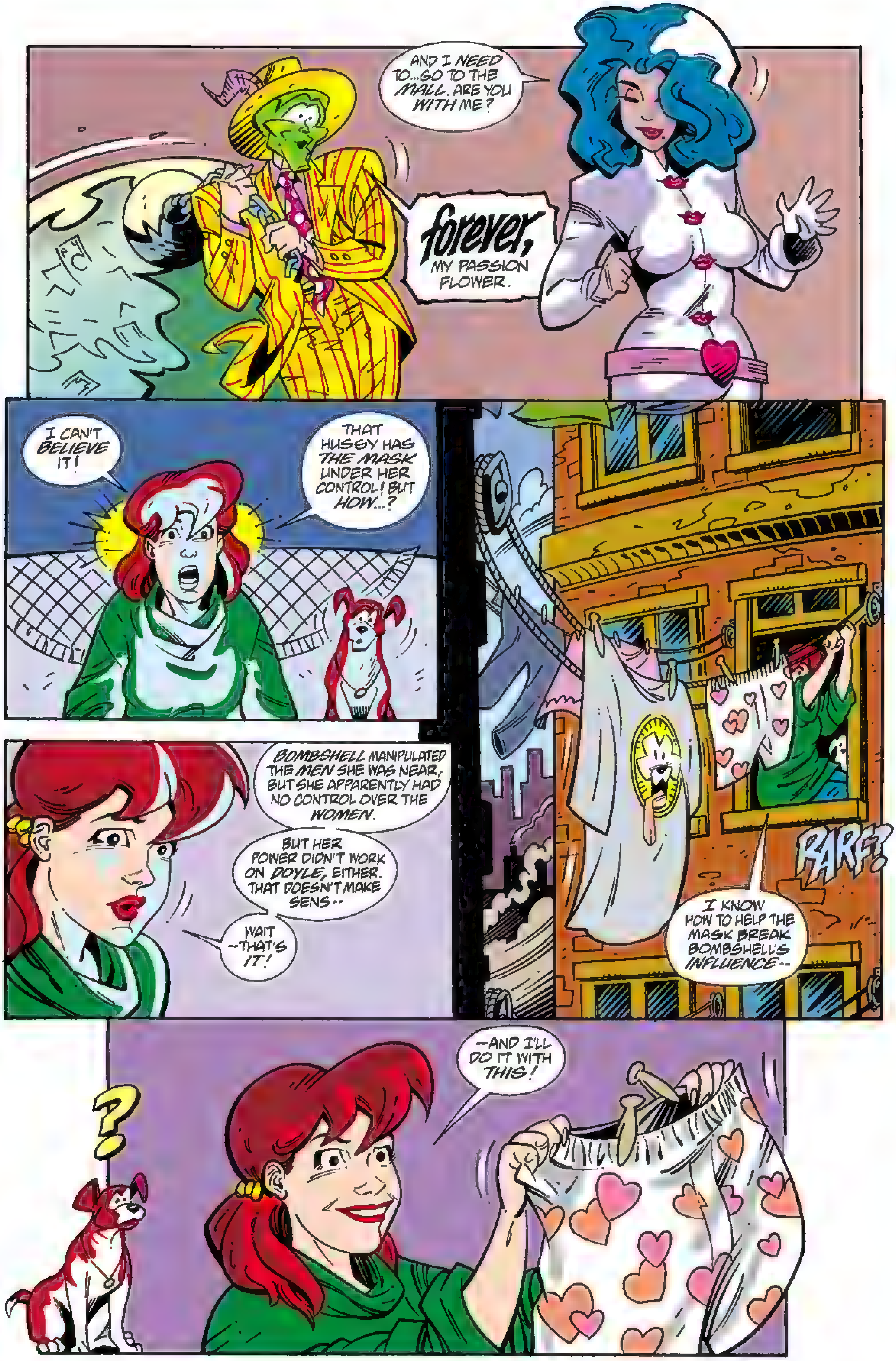

--INSIDE THE BALL OF MONEY.
AND NOW IT'S UP TO YOU, THE CITIZENS OF EDGE CITY, TO PHONE IN TO PLEDGE MORE DONATIONS.
I'D LIKE TO MAKE A PLEDGE, MR. MAYOR...

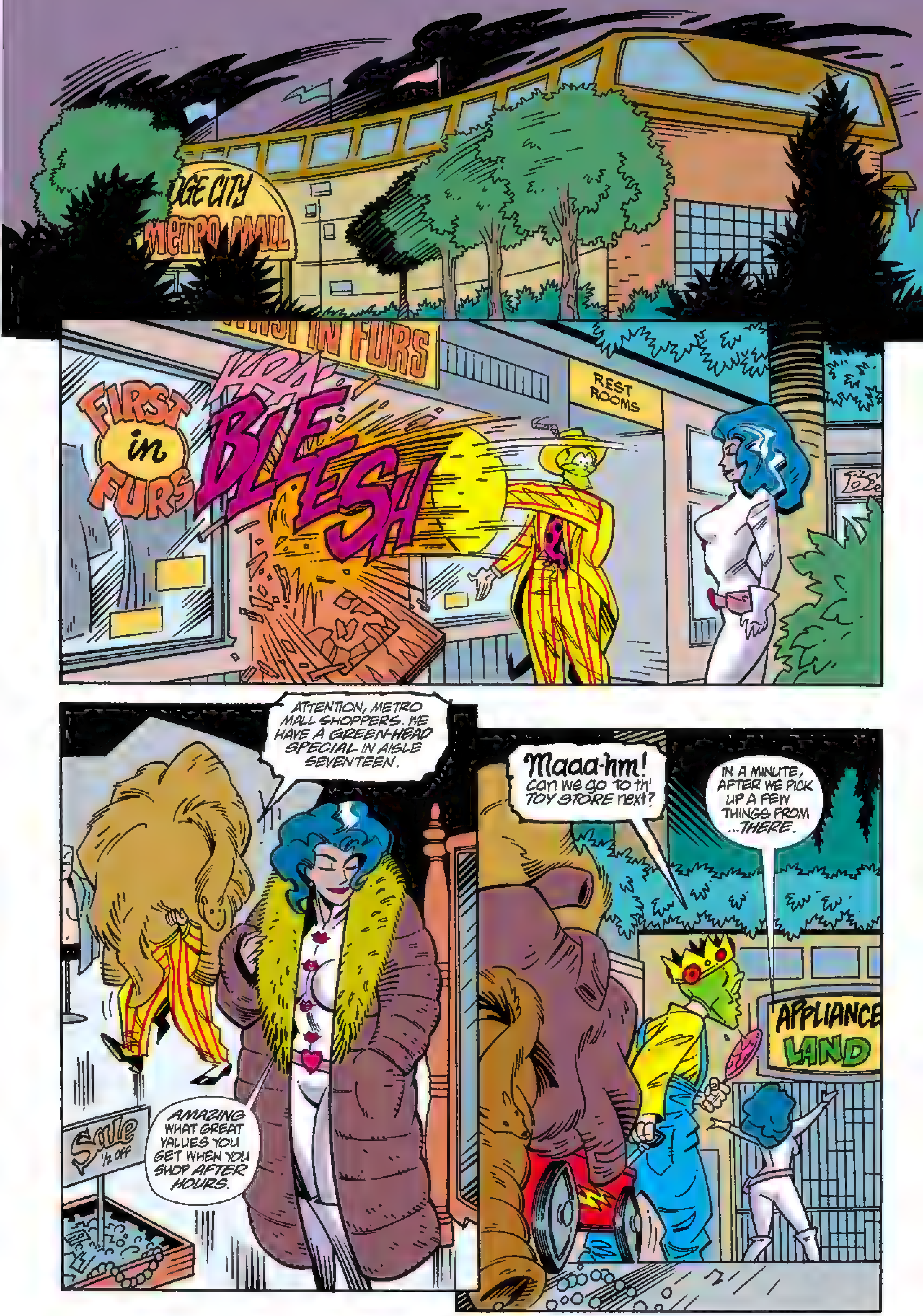

I HEREBY PLEDGE TO TAKE ALL OF THAT MONEY FOR *ME*-- *BOMBSHELL!*
THAT'S *HER!* *SHE'S* THE ONE WHO ROBBED THE BANK TODAY!
WEIRD--SHE'S JUST AS BEAUTIFUL ON *TV* AS SHE IS IN PERSON, BUT I'M NOT *FAWNING* OVER HER LIKE I DID EARLIER.
HUSH, STANLEY. THIS IS BIG-TIME *NEWS!*
WHY *CERTAINLY,* MISS. YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT *ALL.*
RAY, *WHAT* ARE YOU DOING?!
NOW, NOW, AGGIE, BE A *DEAR* AND *GET OUT* OF THE *WAY!*
MOVE ON BACK, MEN!
STOP!
I CAN'T :SNIFF: LET YOU GID AWAY WIF DIS.
DOYLE!!
SMOOOCH

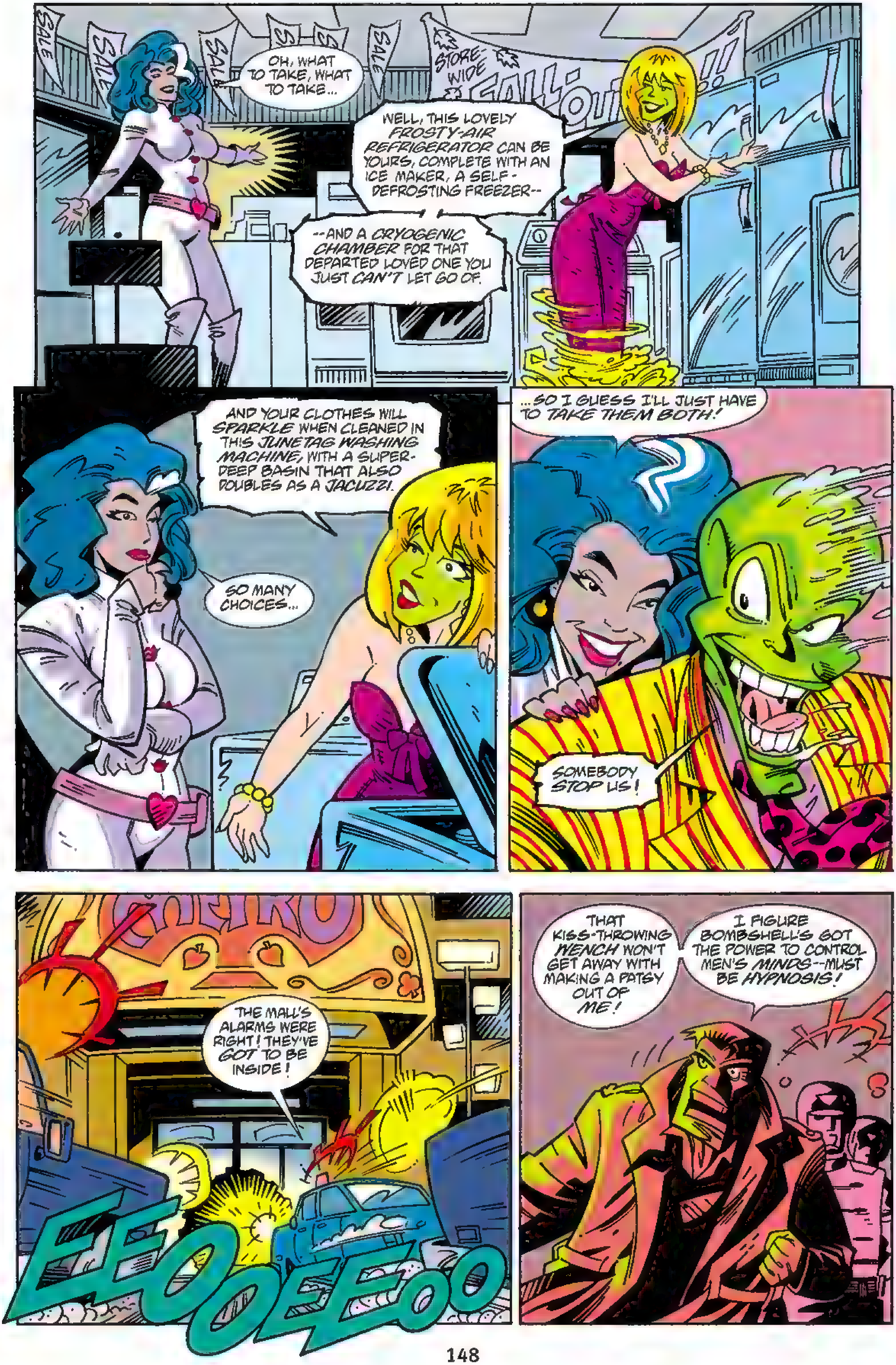

FWOOM
OH, MY GOSH! STANLEY, DID YOU SEE THAT?
YES, I DID, PEGGY, AND I AIM TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP THAT BOMBSHELL--
STANLEY?
YARP
--AS THE MASK!
HELLO... STANLEY...?!
STAN --oh.
WHOOSH!
YIP! YIP!

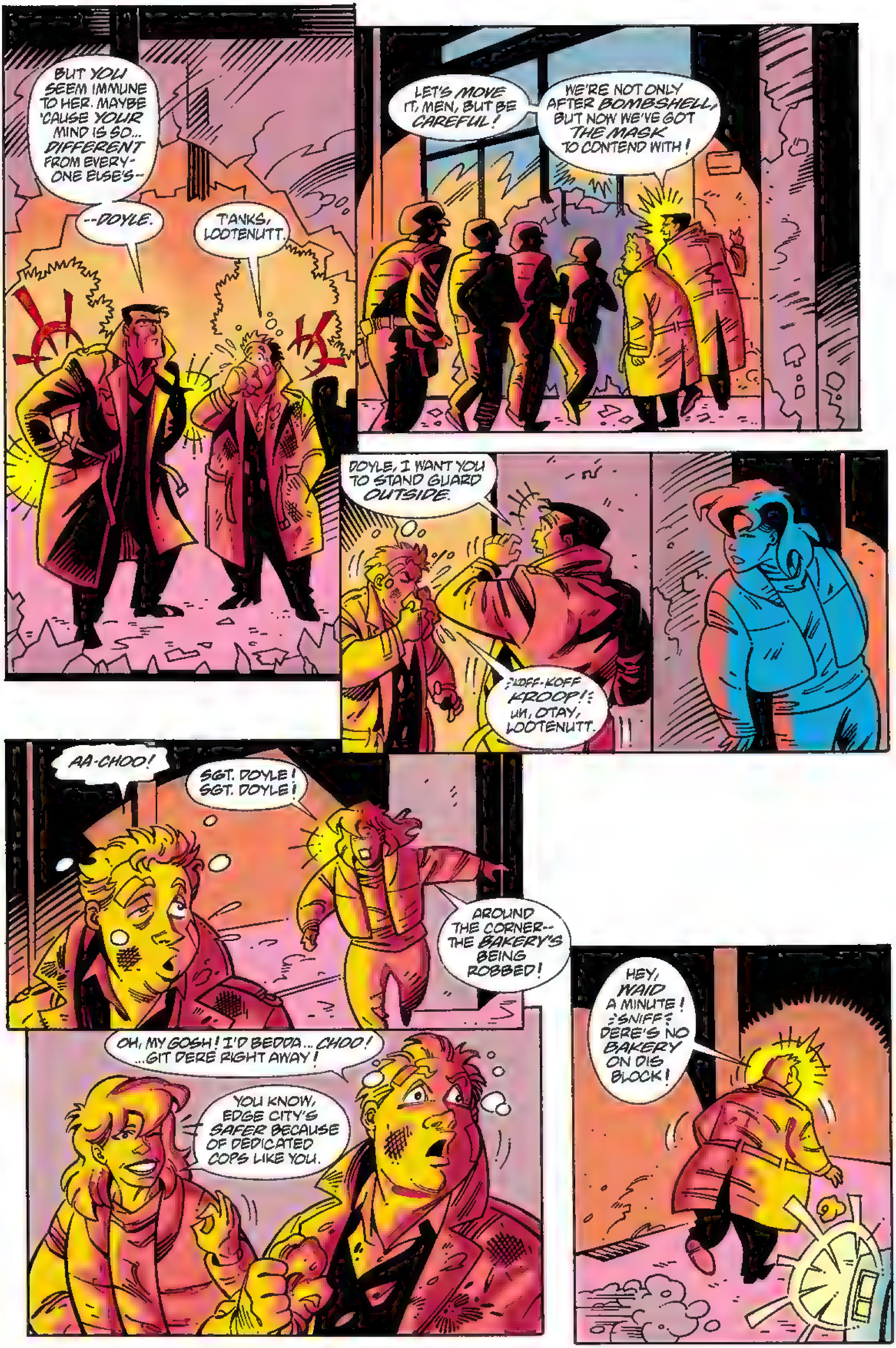

SMOOCH!
KOOM
SHWAM
LOOK OUT!
AIIEE!

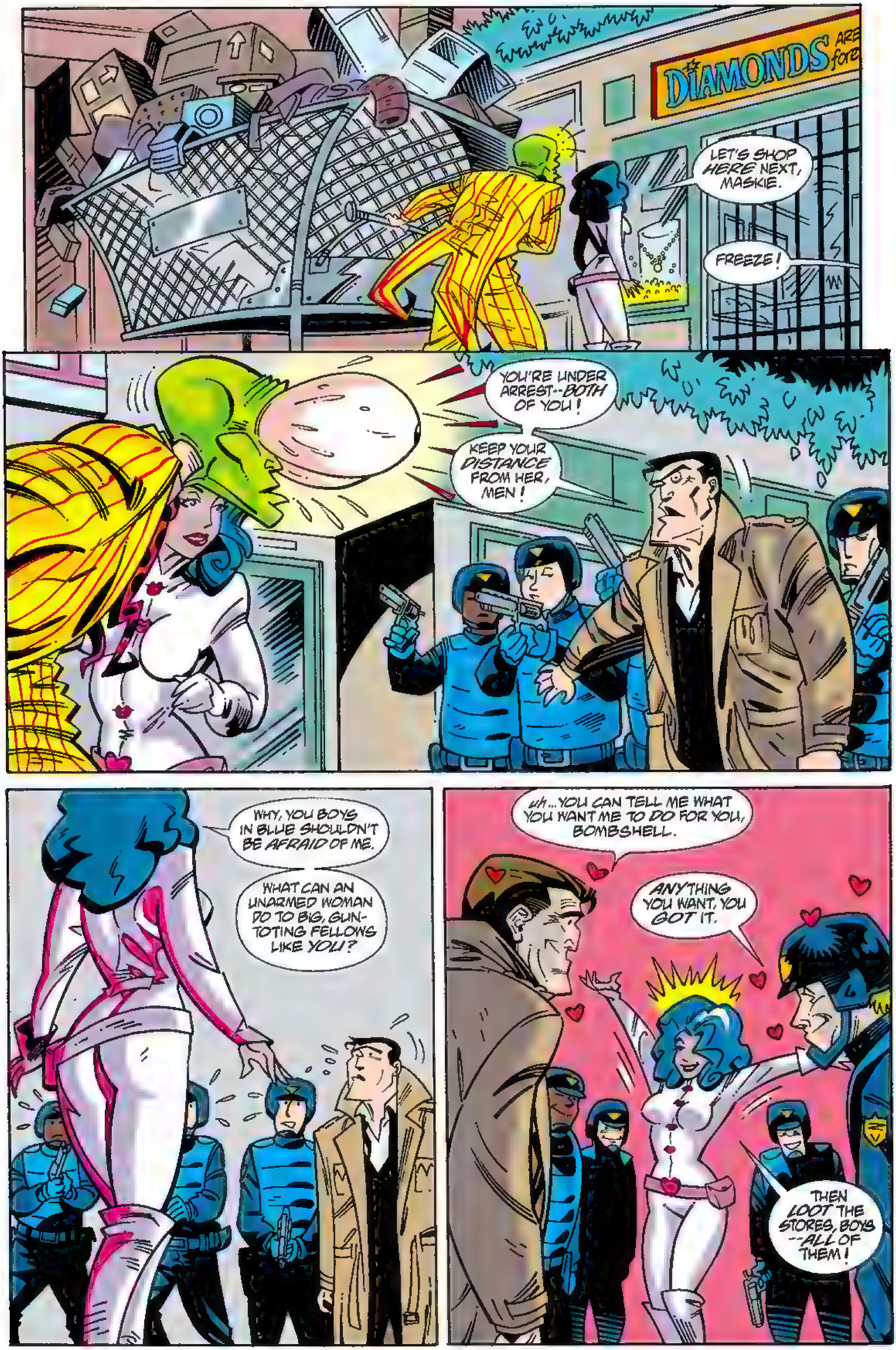

HEY--IT'S *FLOATING!*
FLOATING?! OY! YOU TELL THAT TO THE *HERNIA* I GOT *LIFTING* THIS THING!
I BELIEVE THAT BELONGS TO *ME.*
THIS MONEY BELONGS TO THE *NEEDY* OF EDGE CIT--
Yeee!!
COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO!
BUT *I'M* NEEDY, HANDSOME! I *NEED* THAT MONEY.

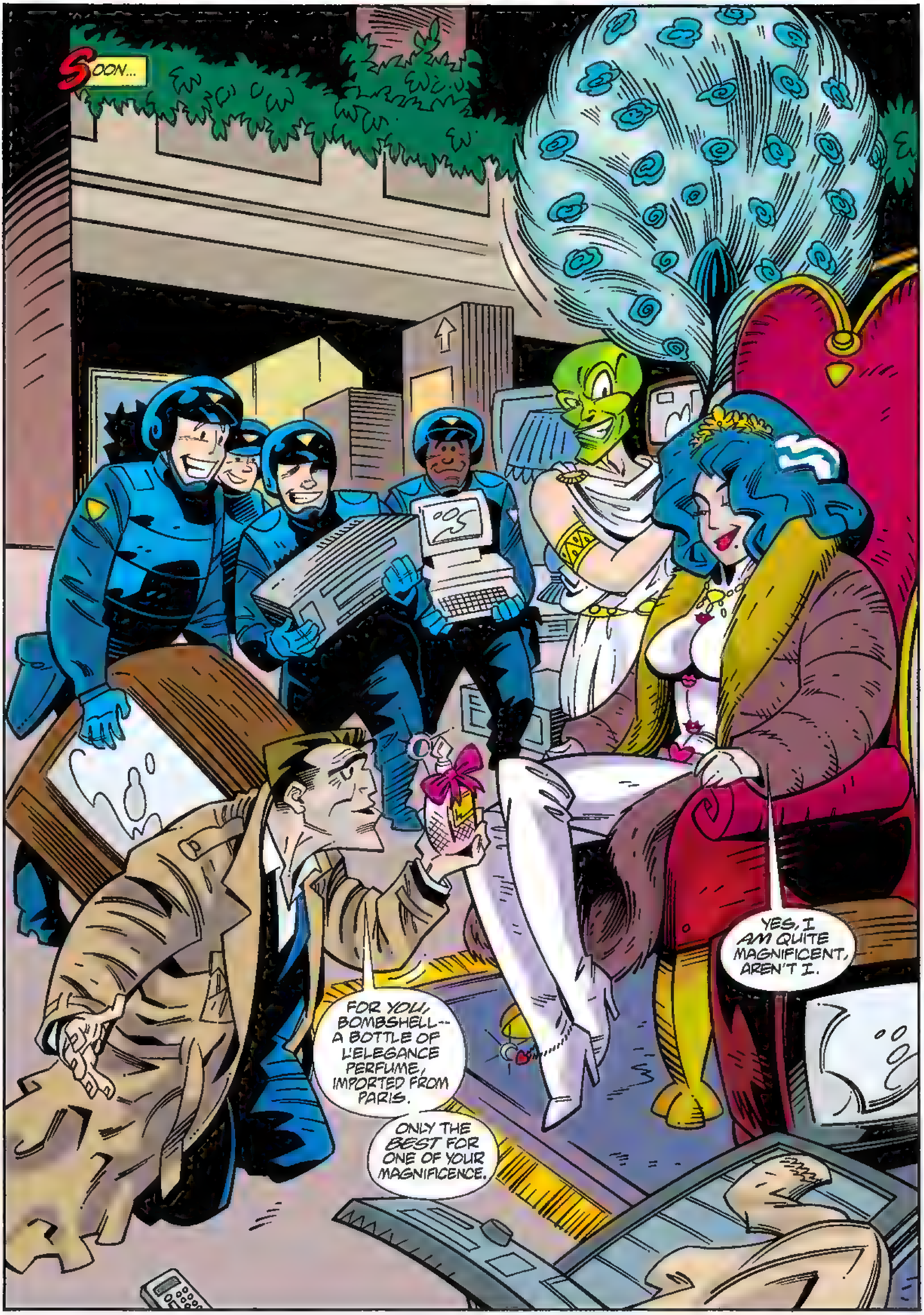

AND I NEED TO...GO TO THE MALL. ARE YOU WITH ME?
forever, MY PASSION FLOWER.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
THAT HUSSY HAS THE MASK UNDER HER CONTROL! BUT HOW...?
BOMBSHELL MANIPULATED THE MEN SHE WAS NEAR, BUT SHE APPARENTLY HAD NO CONTROL OVER THE WOMEN.
BUT HER POWER DIDN'T WORK ON DOYLE, EITHER. THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENS--
WAIT --THAT'S IT!
RARF?
I KNOW HOW TO HELP THE MASK BREAK BOMBSHELL'S INFLUENCE--
?
--AND I'LL DO IT WITH THIS!

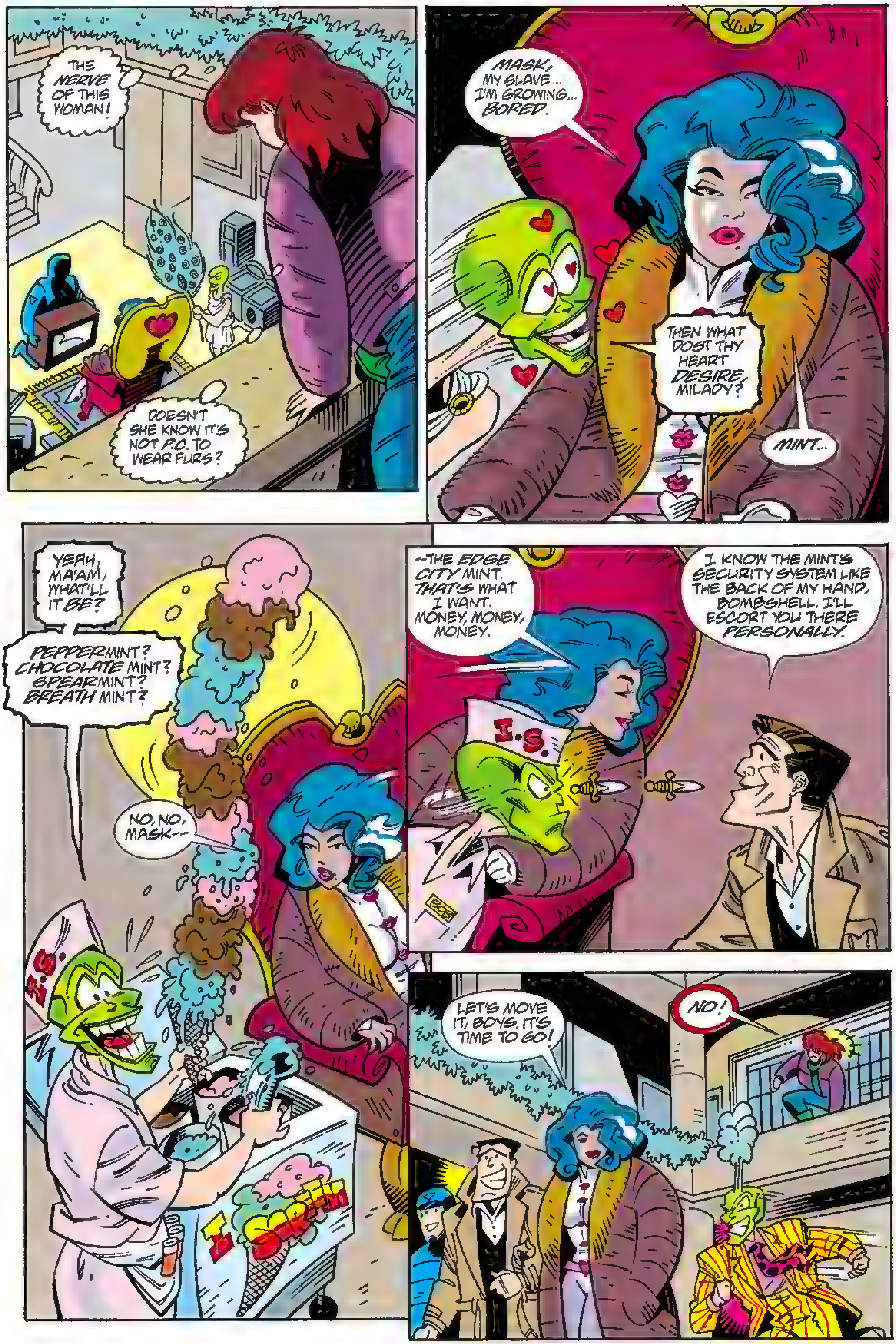

DGE CITY METRO MALL
IN FURS
FIRST in FURS
KRA
BLEESH
REST ROOMS
ATTENTION, METRO MALL SHOPPERS. WE HAVE A GREEN-HEAD SPECIAL IN AISLE SEVENTEEN.
AMAZING WHAT GREAT VALUES YOU GET WHEN YOU SHOP AFTER HOURS.
Sale ½ off
Maaa-hm! Can we go to th' TOY STORE next?
IN A MINUTE, AFTER WE PICK UP A FEW THINGS FROM ...THERE.
APPLIANCE LAND

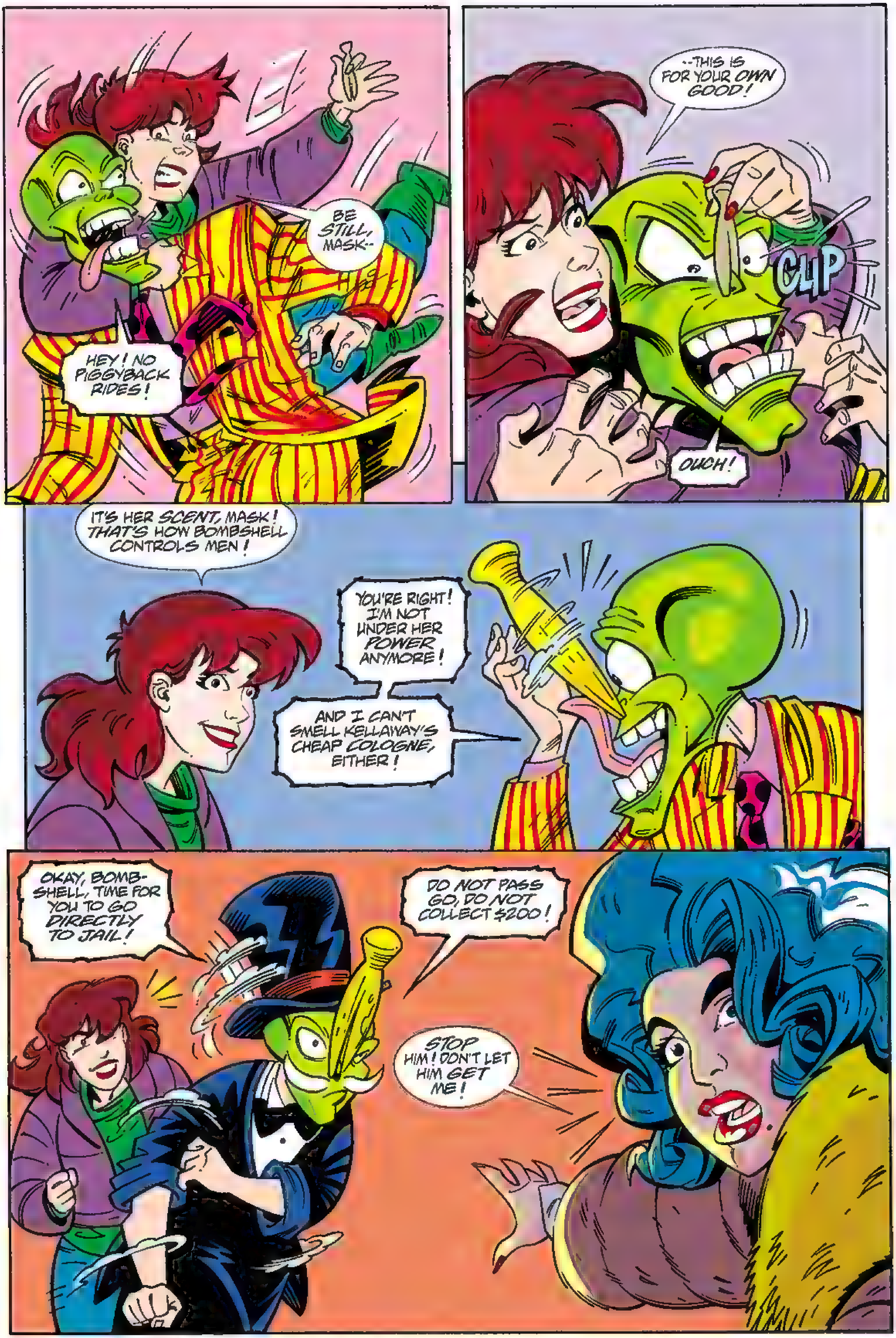

SALE
SALE
SALE
SALE
STORE WIDE SALL-OUT!!
OH, WHAT TO TAKE, WHAT TO TAKE...
WELL, THIS LOVELY *FROSTY-AIR REFRIGERATOR* CAN BE YOURS, COMPLETE WITH AN ICE MAKER, A SELF-DEFROSTING FREEZER--
--AND A *CRYOGENIC CHAMBER* FOR THAT DEPARTED LOVED ONE YOU JUST *CAN'T* LET GO OF.
AND YOUR CLOTHES WILL *SPARKLE* WHEN CLEANED IN THIS *JUNETAG WASHING MACHINE*, WITH A SUPER-DEEP BASIN THAT ALSO DOUBLES AS A *JACUZZI*.
SO MANY CHOICES...
...SO I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO *TAKE THEM BOTH!*
SOMEBODY *STOP US!*
THE MALL'S ALARMS WERE RIGHT! THEY'VE *GOT* TO BE INSIDE!
EEOOEEOO
THAT KISS-THROWING *WENCH* WON'T GET AWAY WITH MAKING A PATSY OUT OF *ME!*
I FIGURE BOMBSHELL'S GOT THE POWER TO CONTROL MEN'S *MINDS*--MUST BE *HYPNOSIS!*

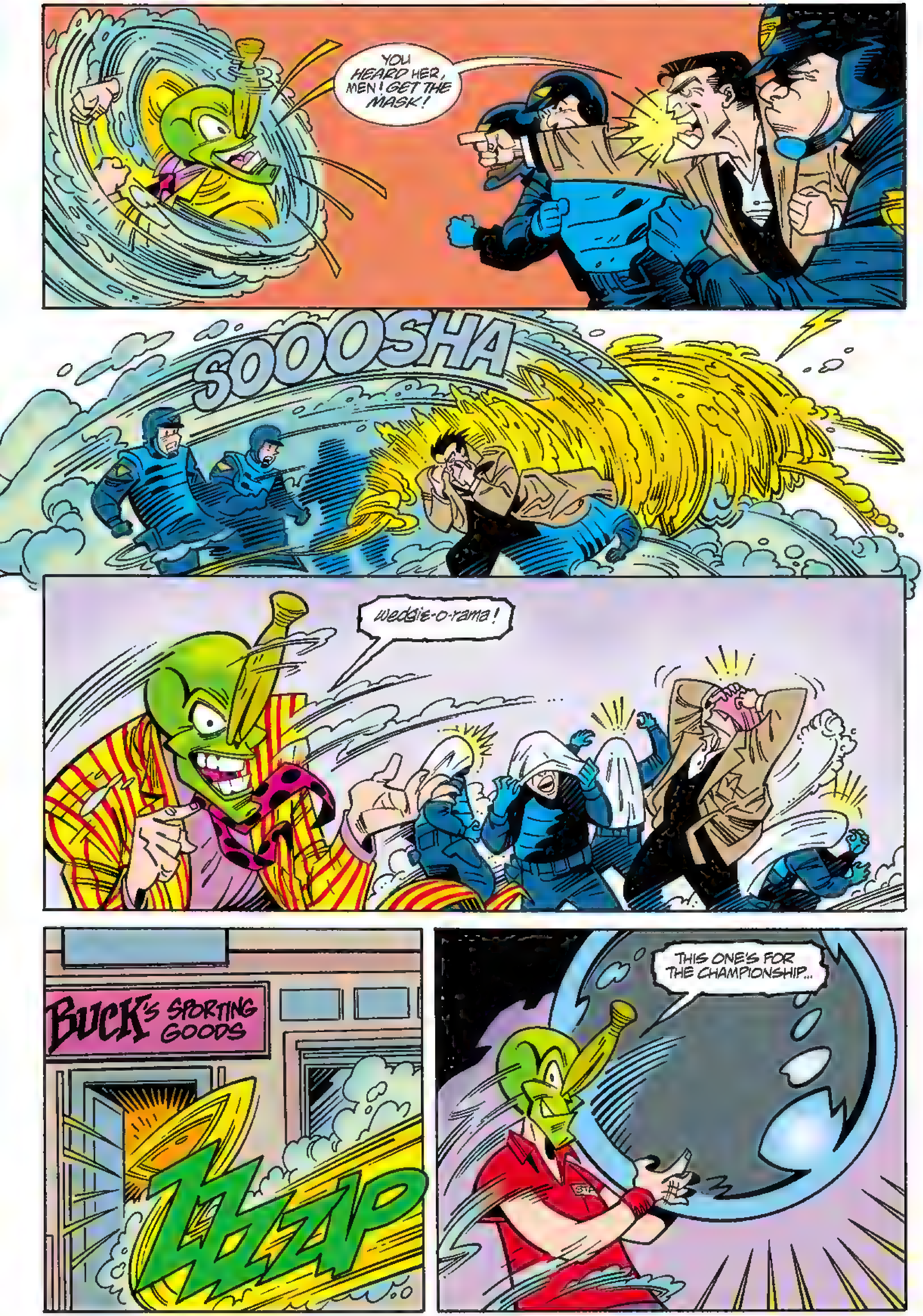

BUT YOU SEEM IMMUNE TO HER. MAYBE 'CAUSE YOUR MIND IS SO... DIFFERENT FROM EVERY-ONE ELSE'S--
--DOYLE.
T'ANKS, LOOTENUTT.
LET'S MOVE IT, MEN, BUT BE CAREFUL!
WE'RE NOT ONLY AFTER BOMBSHELL, BUT NOW WE'VE GOT THE MASK TO CONTEND WITH!
DOYLE, I WANT YOU TO STAND GUARD OUTSIDE.
:KOFF-KOFF KROOP!: UH, OTAY, LOOTENUTT.
AA-CHOO!
SGT. DOYLE! SGT. DOYLE!
AROUND THE CORNER-- THE BAKERY'S BEING ROBBED!
OH, MY GOSH! I'D BEDDA... CHOO! ...GIT DERE RIGHT AWAY!
YOU KNOW, EDGE CITY'S SAFER BECAUSE OF DEDICATED COPS LIKE YOU.
HEY, WAID A MINUTE! :SNIFF: DERE'S NO BAKERY ON DIS BLOCK!

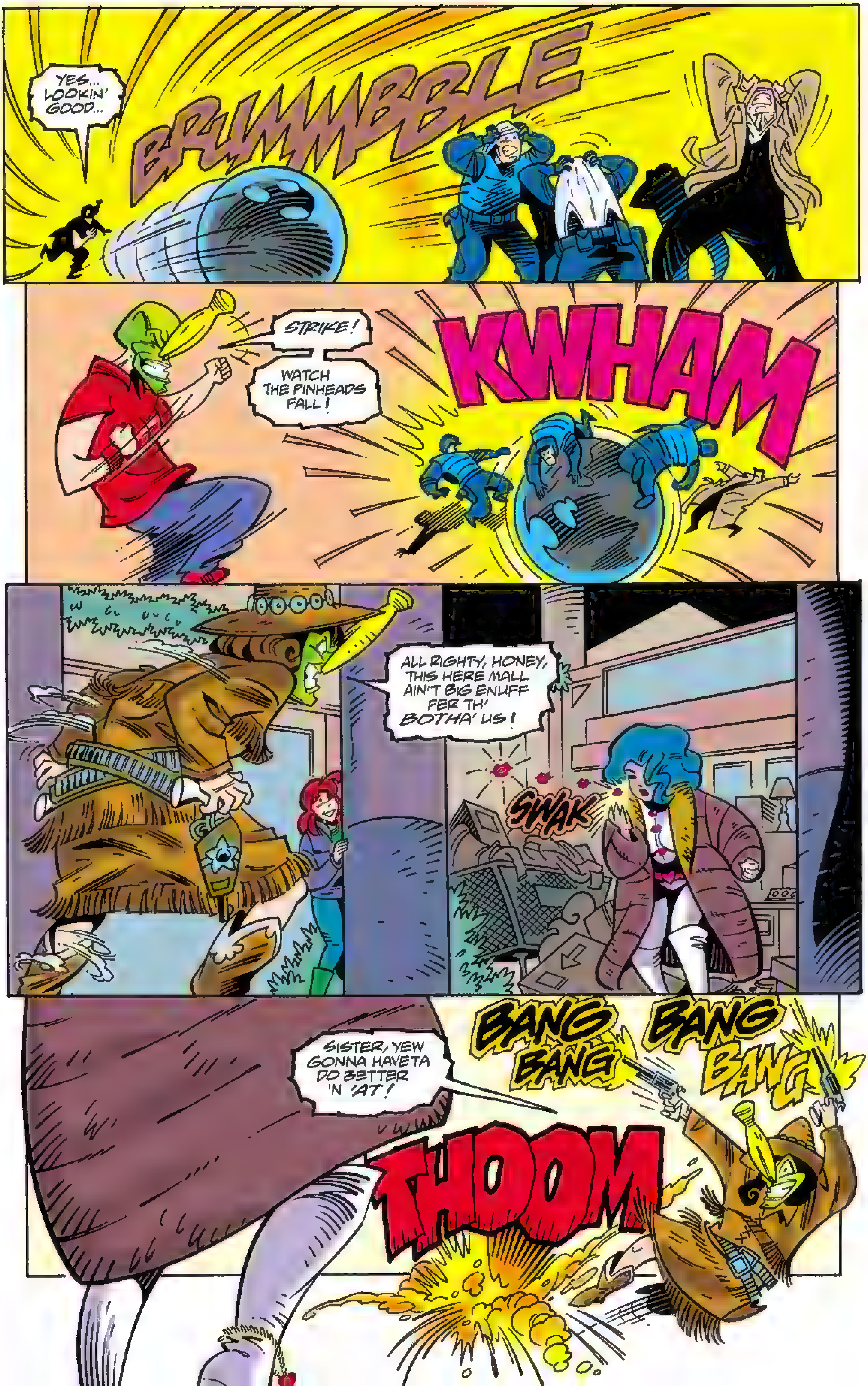

DIAMONDS ARE fore
LET'S SHOP *HERE* NEXT, MASKIE.
FREEZE!
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST--*BOTH* OF YOU!
KEEP YOUR *DISTANCE* FROM HER, MEN!
WHY, YOU BOYS IN BLUE SHOULDN'T BE *AFRAID* OF ME.
WHAT CAN AN UNARMED WOMAN *DO* TO BIG, GUN-TOTING FELLOWS LIKE *YOU*?
uh...YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT ME TO *DO* FOR YOU, BOMBSHELL.
*ANY*THING YOU WANT, YOU *GOT* IT.
THEN *LOOT* THE STORES, BOYS --*ALL* OF THEM!

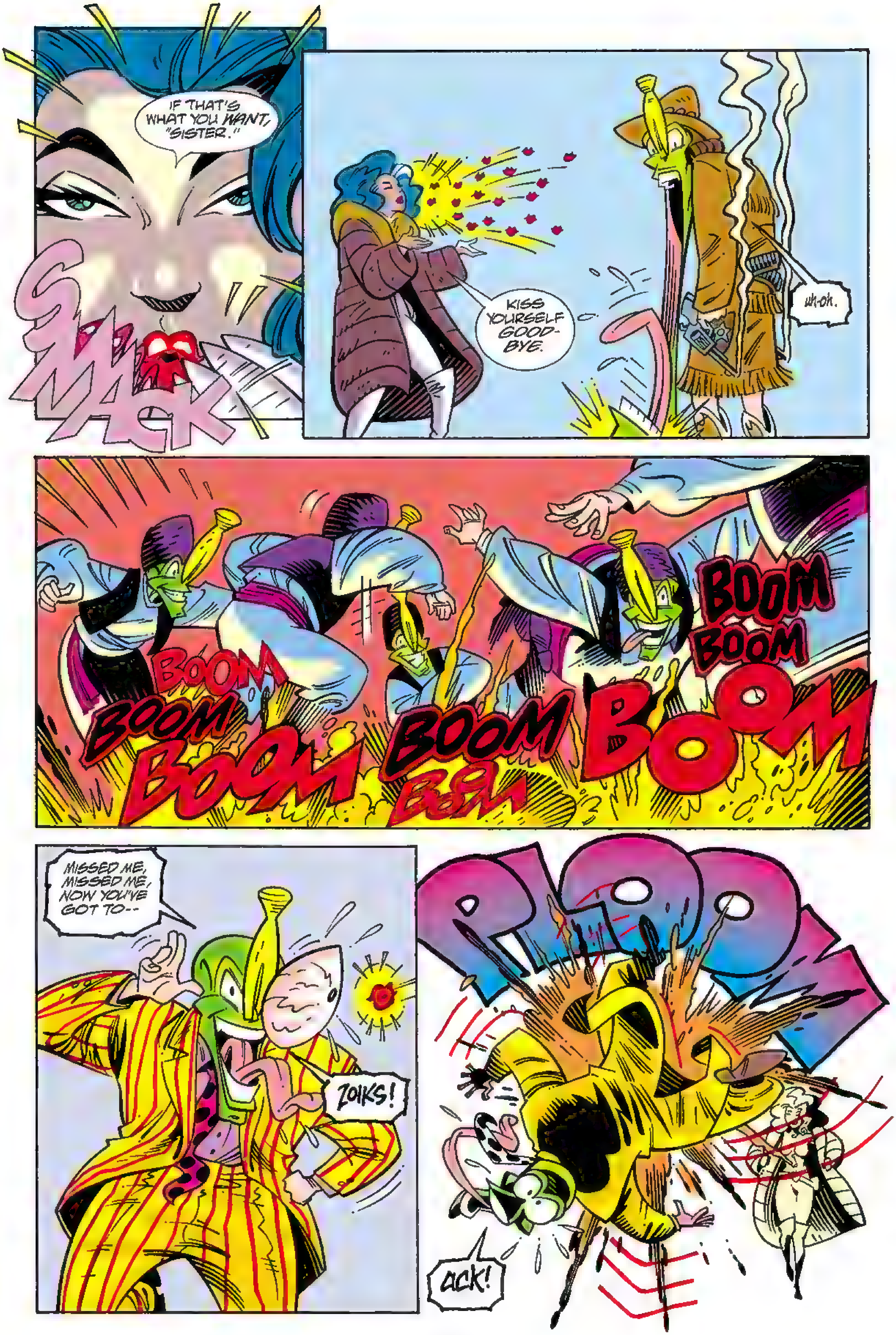

SOON...
YES, I AM QUITE MAGNIFICENT, AREN'T I.
FOR YOU, BOMBSHELL-- A BOTTLE OF L'ELEGANCE PERFUME, IMPORTED FROM PARIS.
ONLY THE BEST FOR ONE OF YOUR MAGNIFICENCE.

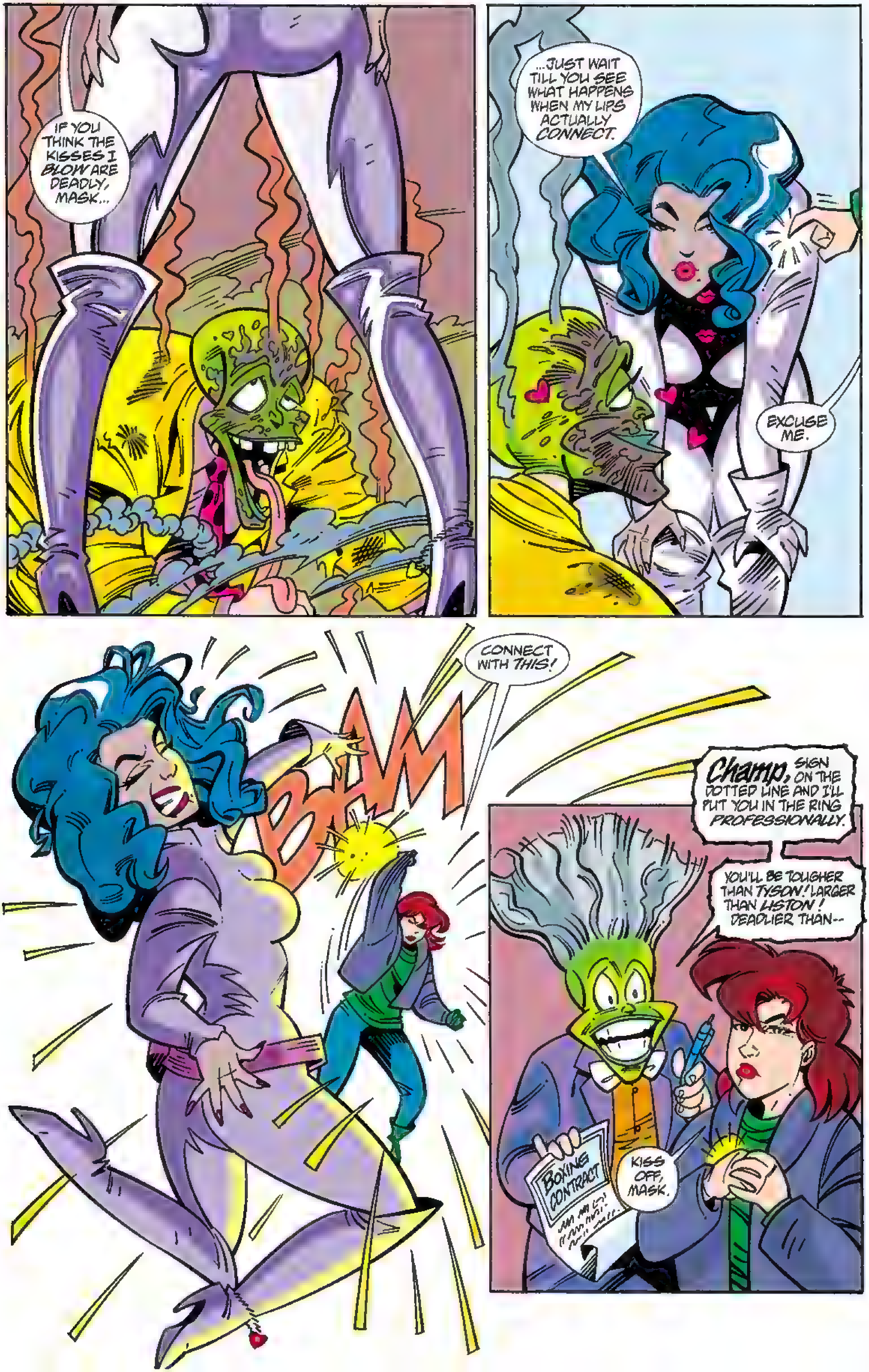

THE NERVE OF THIS WOMAN!
DOESN'T SHE KNOW IT'S NOT P.C. TO WEAR FURS?
MASK, MY SLAVE... I'M GROWING... BORED.
THEN WHAT DOST THY HEART DESIRE, MILADY?
MINT...
YEAH, MA'AM, WHAT'LL IT BE?
PEPPERMINT? CHOCOLATE MINT? SPEARMINT? BREATH MINT?
NO, NO, MASK--
--THE EDGE CITY MINT. THAT'S WHAT I WANT. MONEY, MONEY, MONEY.
I KNOW THE MINT'S SECURITY SYSTEM LIKE THE BACK OF MY HAND, BOMBSHELL. I'LL ESCORT YOU THERE PERSONALLY.
LET'S MOVE IT, BOYS. IT'S TIME TO GO!
NO!
I.S.

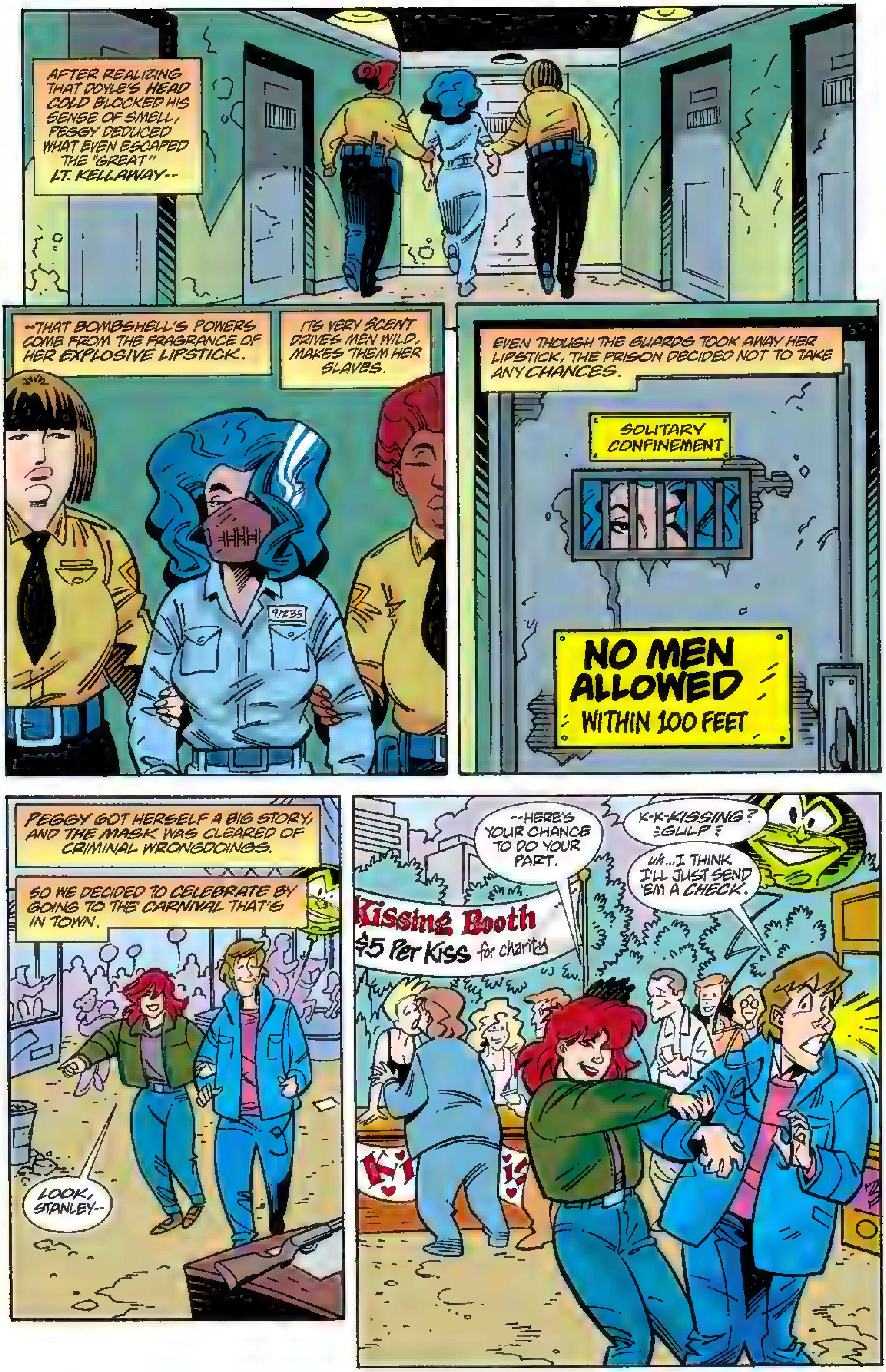

BE STILL, MASK--
HEY! NO PIGGYBACK RIDES!
--THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
CLIP
OUCH!
IT'S HER SCENT, MASK! THAT'S HOW BOMBSHELL CONTROLS MEN!
YOU'RE RIGHT! I'M NOT UNDER HER POWER ANYMORE!
AND I CAN'T SMELL KELLAWAY'S CHEAP COLOGNE, EITHER!
OKAY, BOMBSHELL, TIME FOR YOU TO GO DIRECTLY TO JAIL!
DO NOT PASS GO, DO NOT COLLECT $200!
STOP HIM! DON'T LET HIM GET ME!


YOU HEARD HER, MEN! GET THE MASK!
SOOOSHA
wedgie-o-rama!
BUCK'S SPORTING GOODS
ZZZZIP
THIS ONE'S FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP...


YES... LOOKIN' GOOD...
BRUMMBBLE
STRIKE!
WATCH THE PINHEADS FALL!
KWHAM
ALL RIGHTY, HONEY, THIS HERE MALL AIN'T BIG ENUFF FER TH' BOTHA' US!
SWAK
BANG BANG BANG BANG
SISTER, YEW GONNA HAVETA DO BETTER 'N 'AT!
THOOM


IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, "SISTER."
SMACK
KISS YOURSELF GOOD-BYE.
uh-oh.
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
MISSED ME, MISSED ME, NOW YOU'VE GOT TO--
ZOIKS!
PTOOW
ACK!


IF YOU THINK THE KISSES I *BLOW* ARE DEADLY, MASK...
...JUST WAIT TILL YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MY LIPS ACTUALLY *CONNECT.*
EXCUSE ME.
CONNECT WITH *THIS!*
BAM
Champ, SIGN ON THE DOTTED LINE AND I'LL PUT YOU IN THE RING *PROFESSIONALLY.*
YOU'LL BE TOUGHER THAN *TYSON!* LARGER THAN *LISTON!* DEADLIER THAN--
BOXING CONTRACT
KISS OFF, MASK.


AFTER REALIZING THAT DOYLE'S HEAD COLD BLOCKED HIS SENSE OF SMELL, PEGGY DEDUCED WHAT EVEN ESCAPED THE "GREAT" LT. KELLAWAY--
--THAT BOMBSHELL'S POWERS COME FROM THE FRAGRANCE OF HER EXPLOSIVE LIPSTICK.
ITS VERY SCENT DRIVES MEN WILD, MAKES THEM HER SLAVES.
91235
EVEN THOUGH THE GUARDS TOOK AWAY HER LIPSTICK, THE PRISON DECIDED NOT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES.
SOLITARY CONFINEMENT
NO MEN ALLOWED WITHIN 100 FEET
PEGGY GOT HERSELF A BIG STORY, AND THE MASK WAS CLEARED OF CRIMINAL WRONGDOINGS.
SO WE DECIDED TO CELEBRATE BY GOING TO THE CARNIVAL THAT'S IN TOWN.
LOOK, STANLEY--
--HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO DO YOUR PART.
Kissing Booth $5 Per Kiss for charity
K-K-KISSING? GULP
uh...I THINK I'LL JUST SEND 'EM A CHECK.

A HEAD FOR TROUBLE

AAAAARRRRR

script
MICHAEL EURY

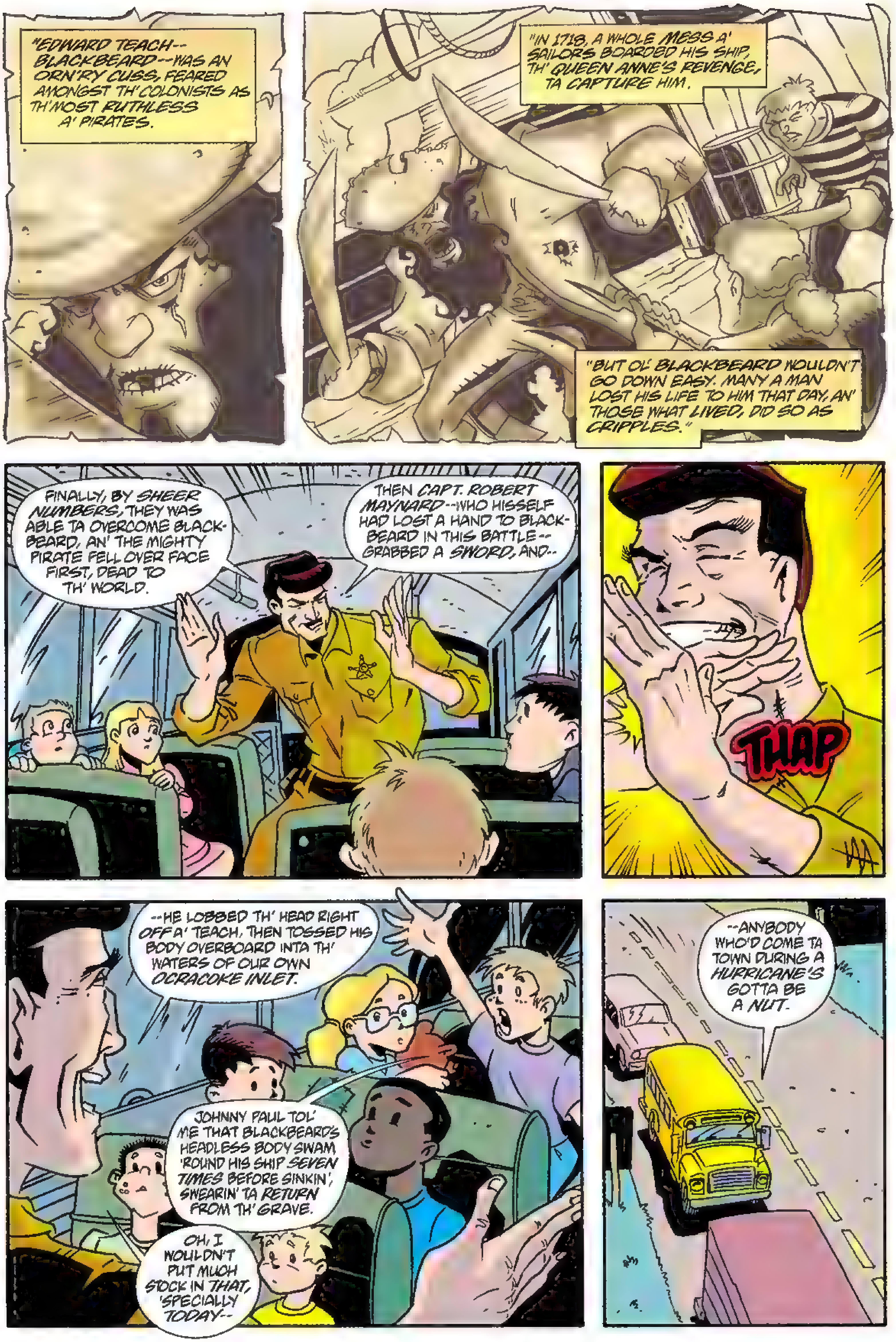
pencils
DEV MADAN

inks
ANDE PARKS

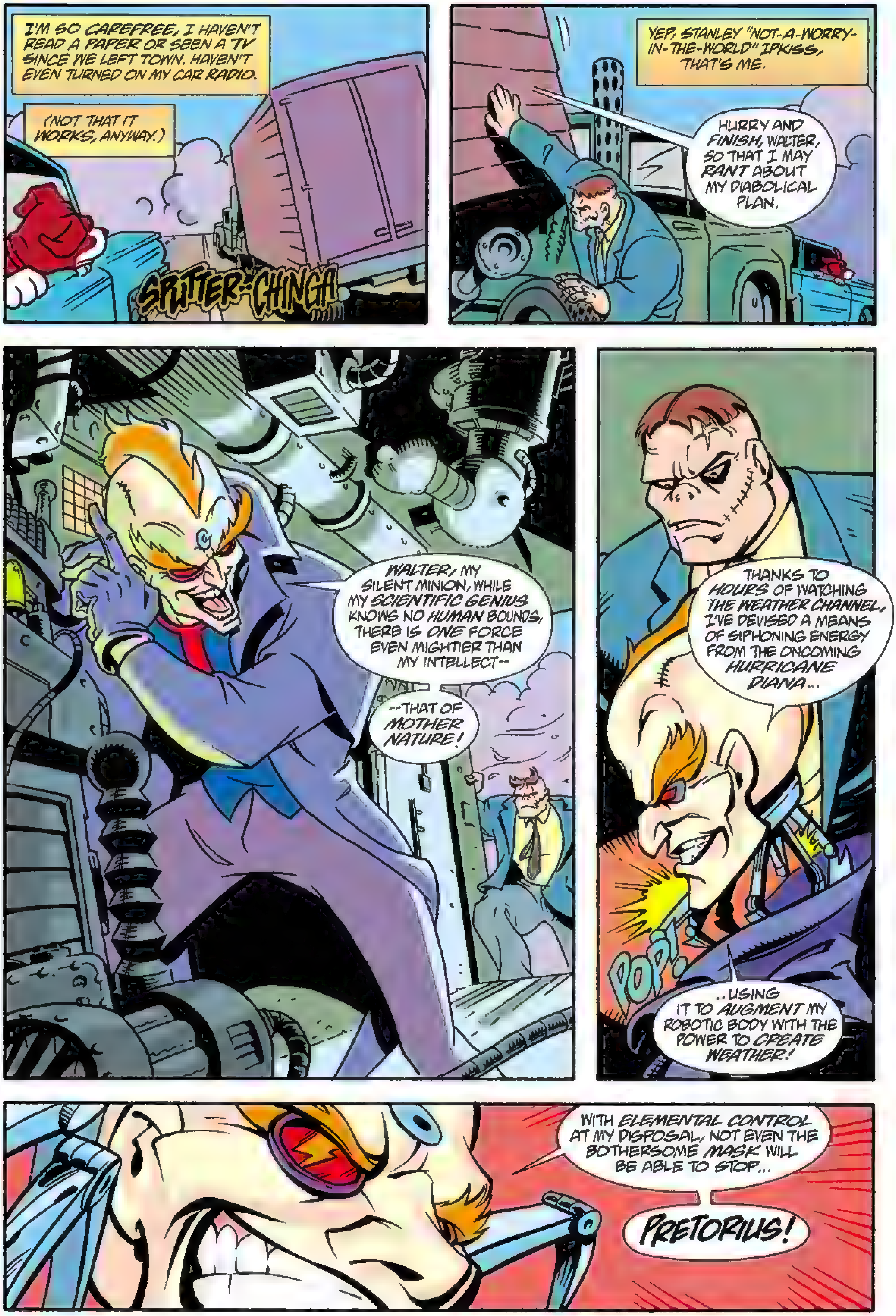
colors
MATT WEBB

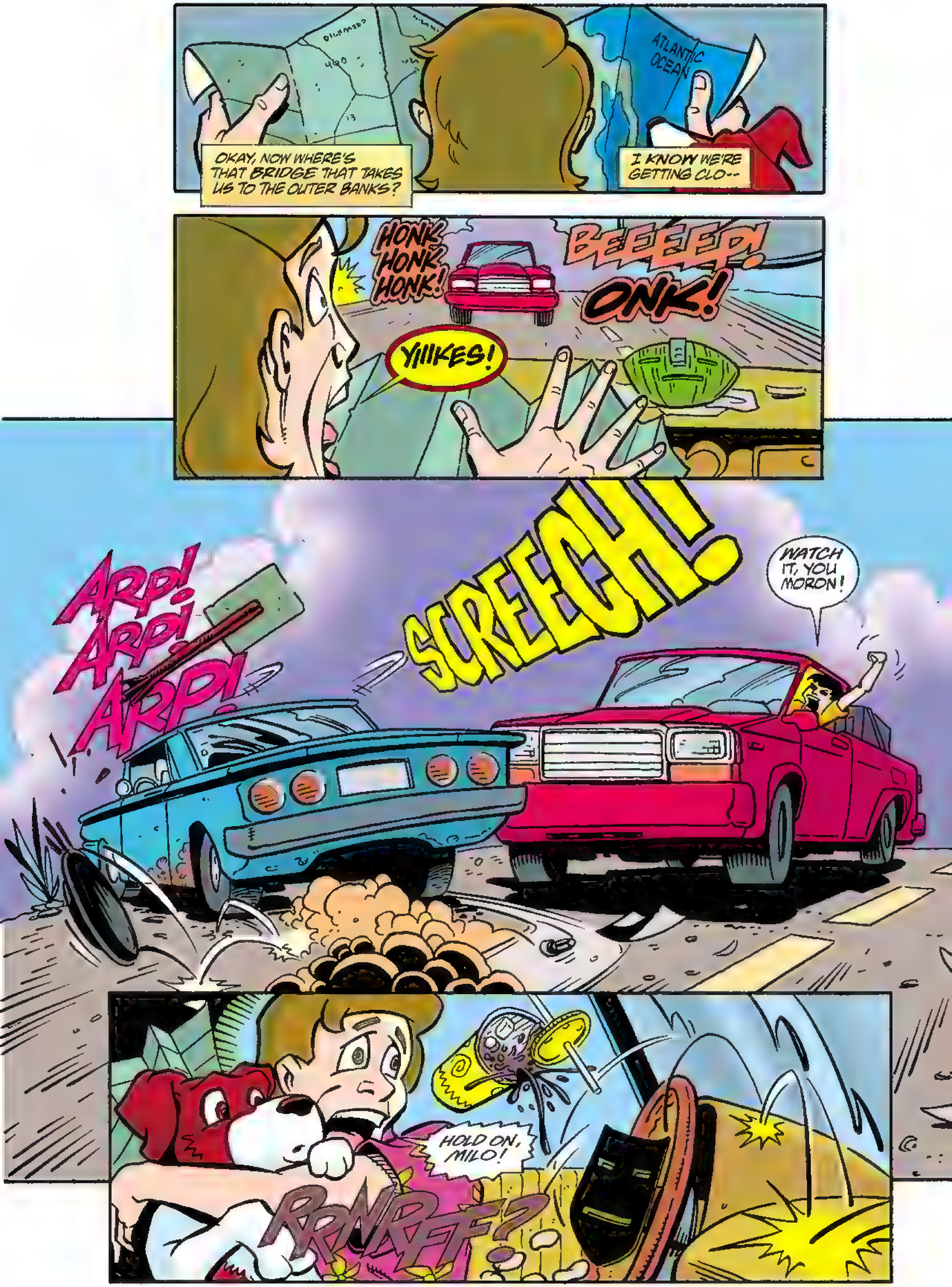
lettering
CLEM ROBINS

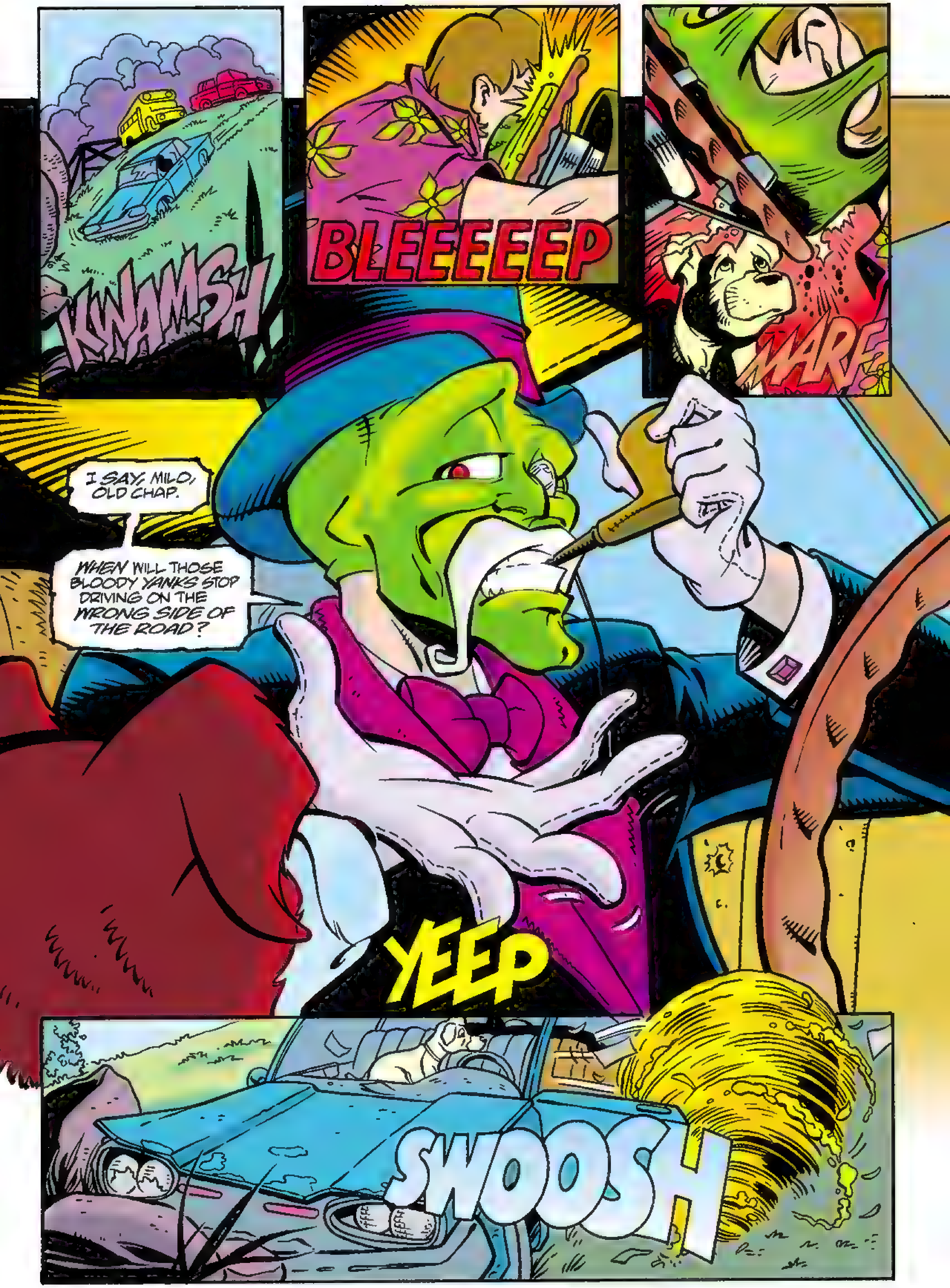
title illustration
BRUCE TIMM

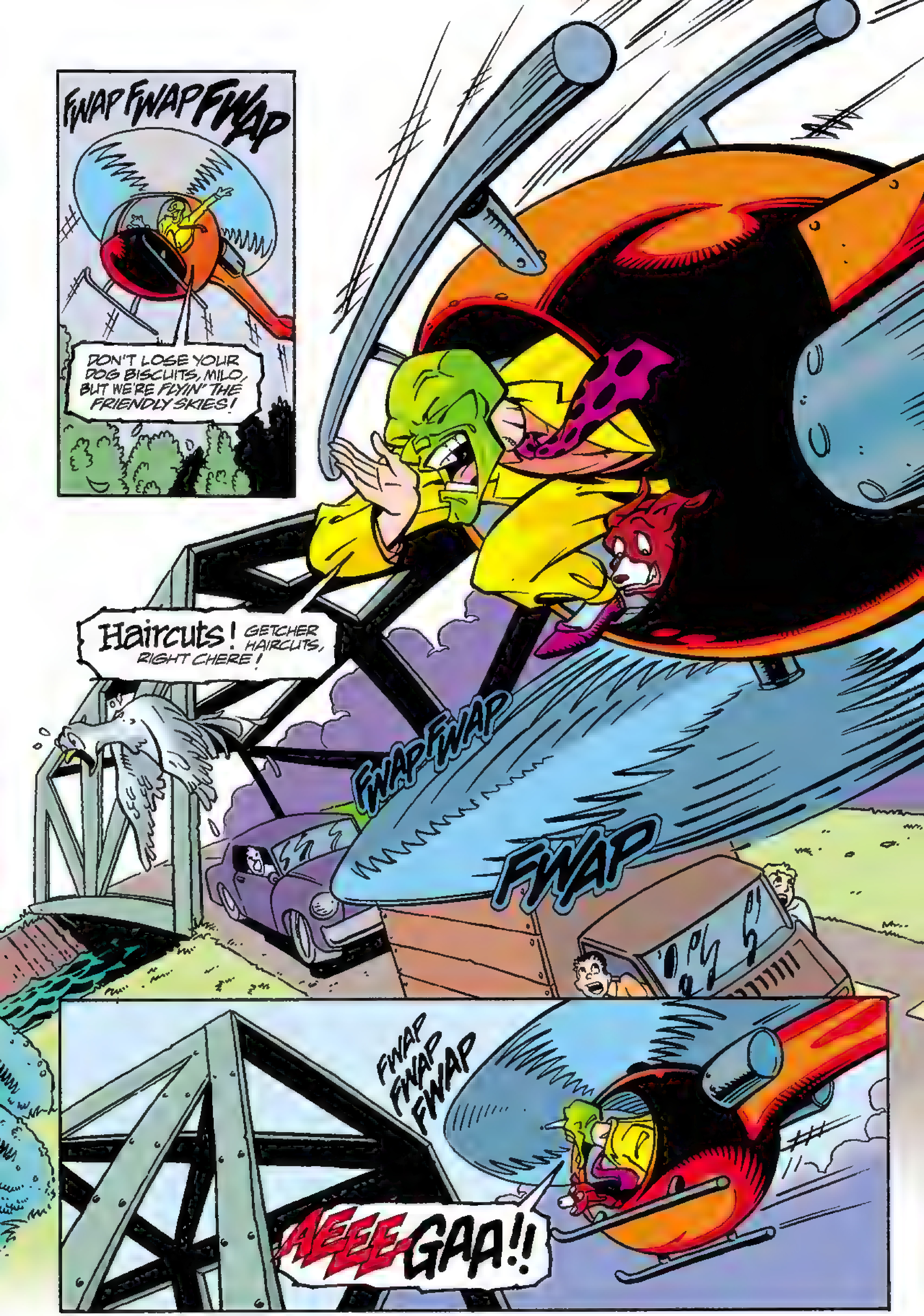

"EDWARD TEACH--BLACKBEARD--WAS AN ORN'RY CUSS, FEARED AMONGST TH' COLONISTS AS TH' MOST RUTHLESS A' PIRATES.
"IN 1718, A WHOLE MESS A' SAILORS BOARDED HIS SHIP, TH' QUEEN ANNE'S REVENGE, TA CAPTURE HIM.
"BUT OL' BLACKBEARD WOULDN'T GO DOWN EASY. MANY A MAN LOST HIS LIFE TO HIM THAT DAY, AN' THOSE WHAT LIVED, DID SO AS CRIPPLES."
FINALLY, BY SHEER NUMBERS, THEY WAS ABLE TA OVERCOME BLACKBEARD, AN' THE MIGHTY PIRATE FELL OVER FACE FIRST, DEAD TO TH' WORLD.
THEN CAPT. ROBERT MAYNARD--WHO HISSELF HAD LOST A HAND TO BLACKBEARD IN THIS BATTLE--GRABBED A SWORD, AND--
THAP
--HE LOBBED TH' HEAD RIGHT OFF A' TEACH, THEN TOSSED HIS BODY OVERBOARD INTA TH' WATERS OF OUR OWN OCRACOKE INLET.
JOHNNY PAUL TOL' ME THAT BLACKBEARD'S HEADLESS BODY SWAM 'ROUND HIS SHIP SEVEN TIMES BEFORE SINKIN', SWEARIN' TA RETURN FROM TH' GRAVE.
OH, I WOULDN'T PUT MUCH STOCK IN THAT, 'SPECIALLY TODAY--
--ANYBODY WHO'D COME TA TOWN DURING A HURRICANE'S GOTTA BE A NUT.

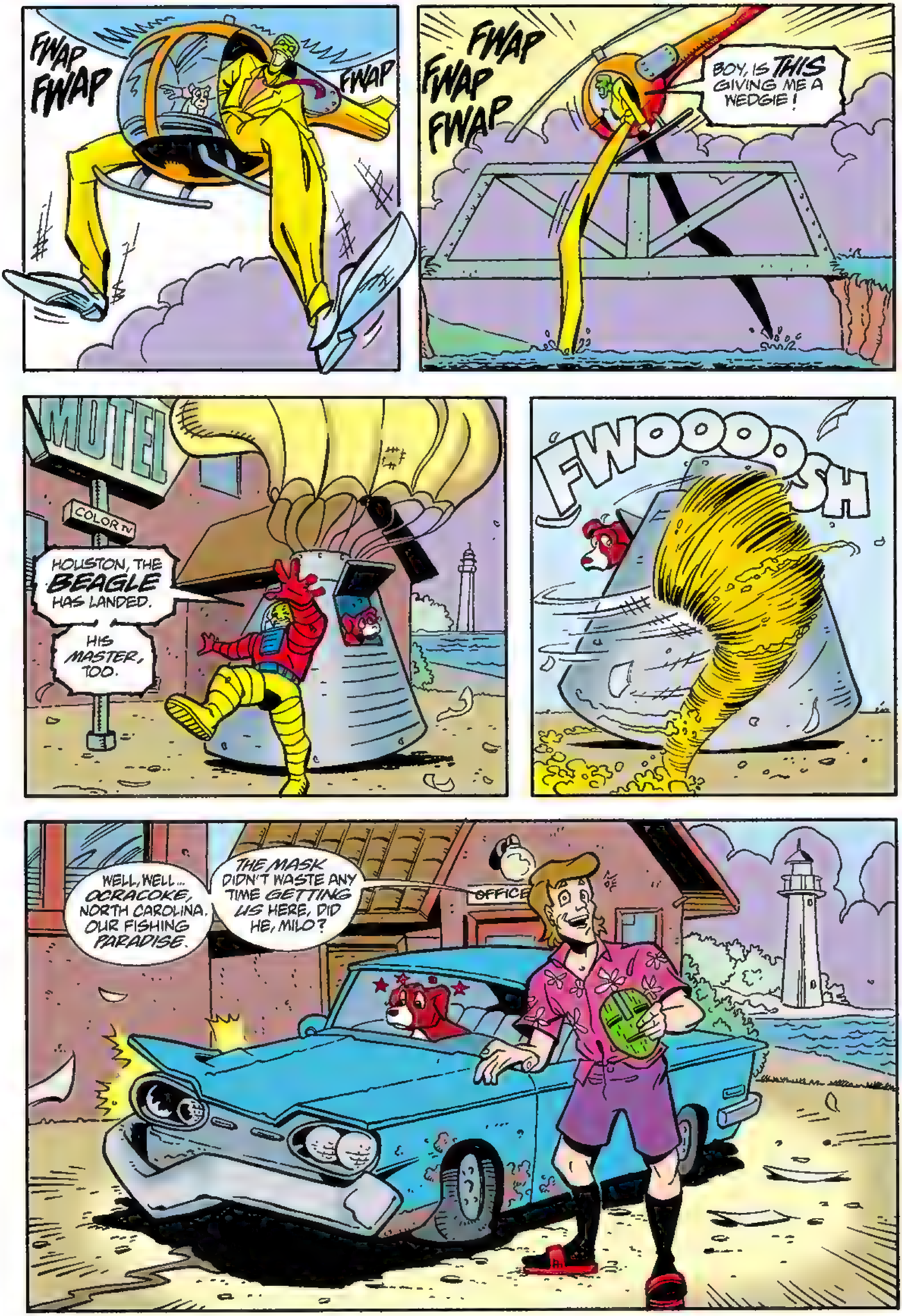
STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
WITH ME IS MY DOG MILO.
AND THIS MONSTROSITY WE'RE IN WAS ONCE A CAR, IN A PREVIOUS LIFE--NOW IT'S MY GAS-GUZZLING NIGHTMARE.
BOINGK
SPUTTER-SPUTTER
COL. JOEL'S ARTERY-CLOGGIN' FRIED CHICKEN
24 HRS.
CLOSED
BORN TO BE MILD!
CLANGG
A HEAD FOR TROUBLE
POST
EVACUATION TODAY
ARTIST MISSIN
MY FRIEND PEGGY TELLS ME I'VE GOT A HEAD FOR TROUBLE.
SEEMS LIKE DISASTER'S USUALLY HEADED WHEREVER I'M LOOKING.
AT THE BANK WHERE I WORK, SOMEBODY'S ALWAYS YELLING AT ME. AT MY APARTMENT, MY LANDLADY'S CONSTANTLY BANGING ON MY DOOR.
AND THAT PESKY COP LT. KELLAWAY IS DETERMINED TO PUT ME BEHIND BARS.
...NOT ME, ACTUALLY, BUT MY ALTER EGO, THE WORLD'S WONKIEST SUPERHERO--
--THE MASK!
CHIPS
SO I'VE DECIDED TO LEAVE MY TROUBLES AND MY HOMETOWN, EDGE CITY, BEHIND ME--
--AS MILO AND I HEAD TO THE NORTH CAROLINA OUTER BANKS FOR A FISHING TRIP.

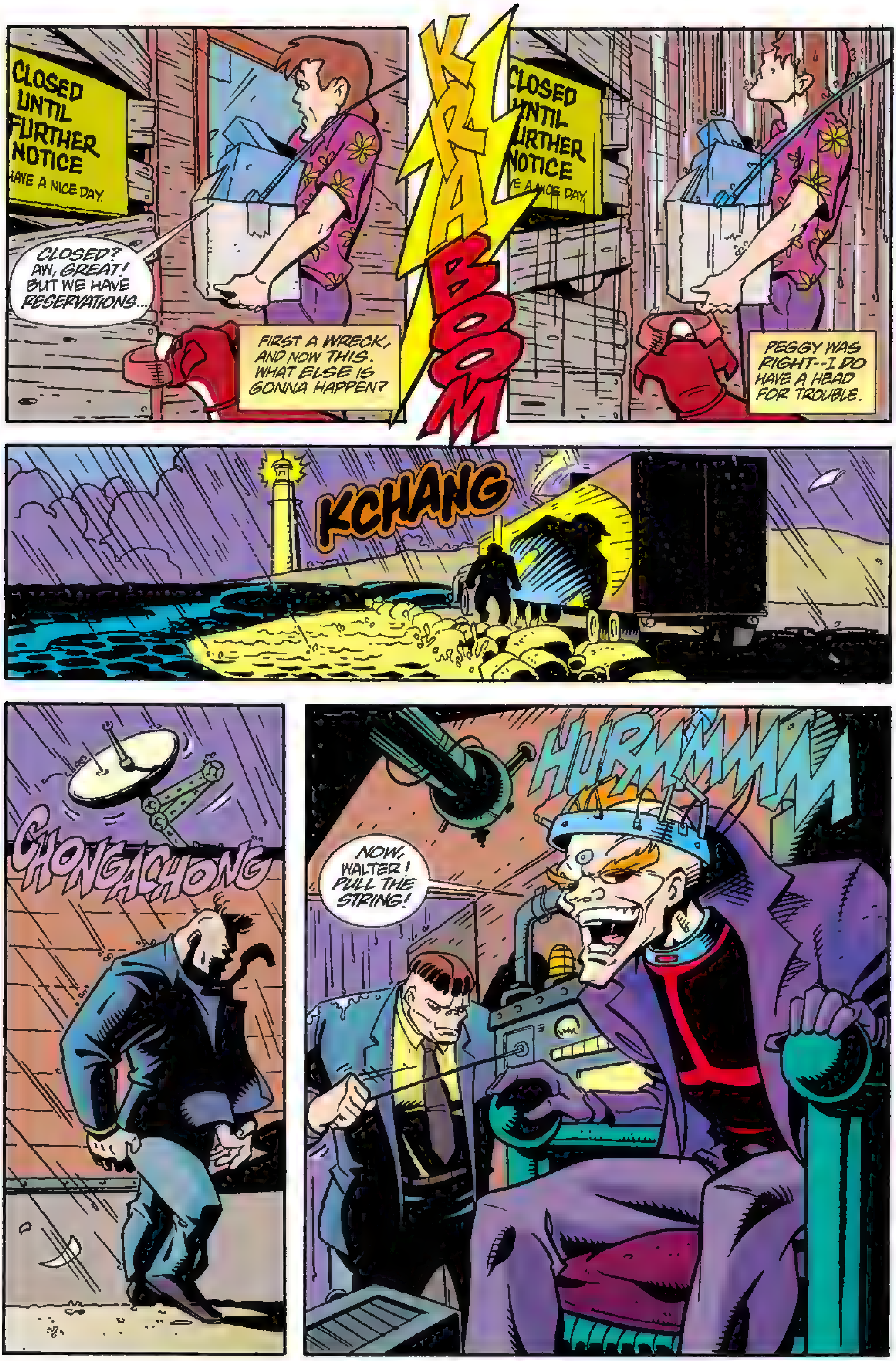

I'M SO CAREFREE, I HAVEN'T READ A PAPER OR SEEN A TV SINCE WE LEFT TOWN. HAVEN'T EVEN TURNED ON MY CAR RADIO.
(NOT THAT IT WORKS, ANYWAY.)
SPUTTER-CHINGA
YEP, STANLEY "NOT-A-WORRY-IN-THE-WORLD" IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
HURRY AND FINISH, WALTER, SO THAT I MAY RANT ABOUT MY DIABOLICAL PLAN.
WALTER, MY SILENT MINION, WHILE MY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS KNOWS NO HUMAN BOUNDS, THERE IS ONE FORCE EVEN MIGHTIER THAN MY INTELLECT--
--THAT OF MOTHER NATURE!
THANKS TO HOURS OF WATCHING THE WEATHER CHANNEL, I'VE DEVISED A MEANS OF SIPHONING ENERGY FROM THE ONCOMING HURRICANE DIANA...
POP!
..USING IT TO AUGMENT MY ROBOTIC BODY WITH THE POWER TO CREATE WEATHER!
WITH ELEMENTAL CONTROL AT MY DISPOSAL, NOT EVEN THE BOTHERSOME MASK WILL BE ABLE TO STOP...
PRETORIUS!

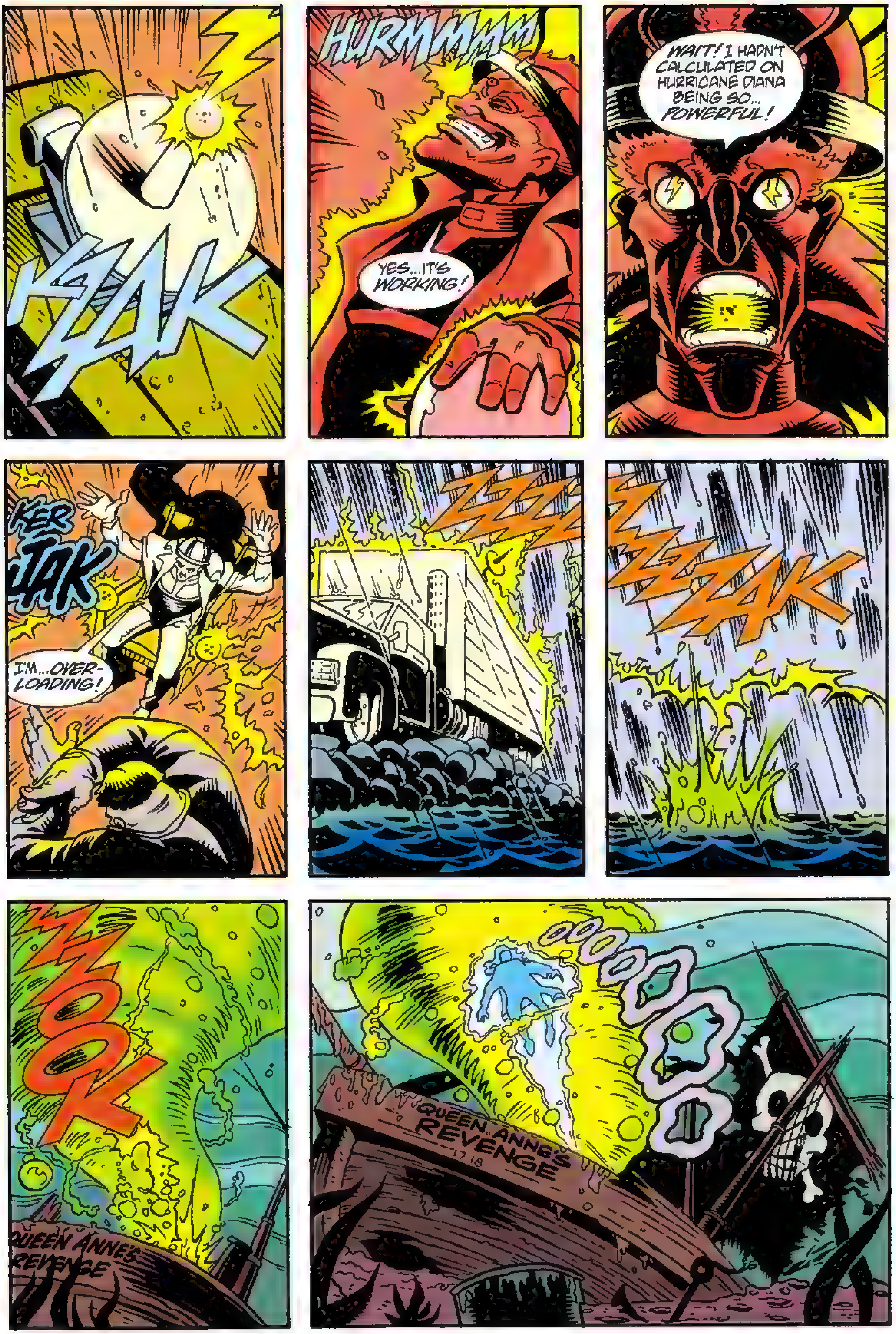

ATLANTIC OCEAN
OKAY, NOW WHERE'S THAT BRIDGE THAT TAKES US TO THE OUTER BANKS?
I KNOW WE'RE GETTING CLO--
HONK HONK HONK!
BEEEEP! ONK!
YIIIKES!
ARP! ARP! ARP!
SCREECH!
WATCH IT, YOU MORON!
HOLD ON, MILO!
RRNRFF?

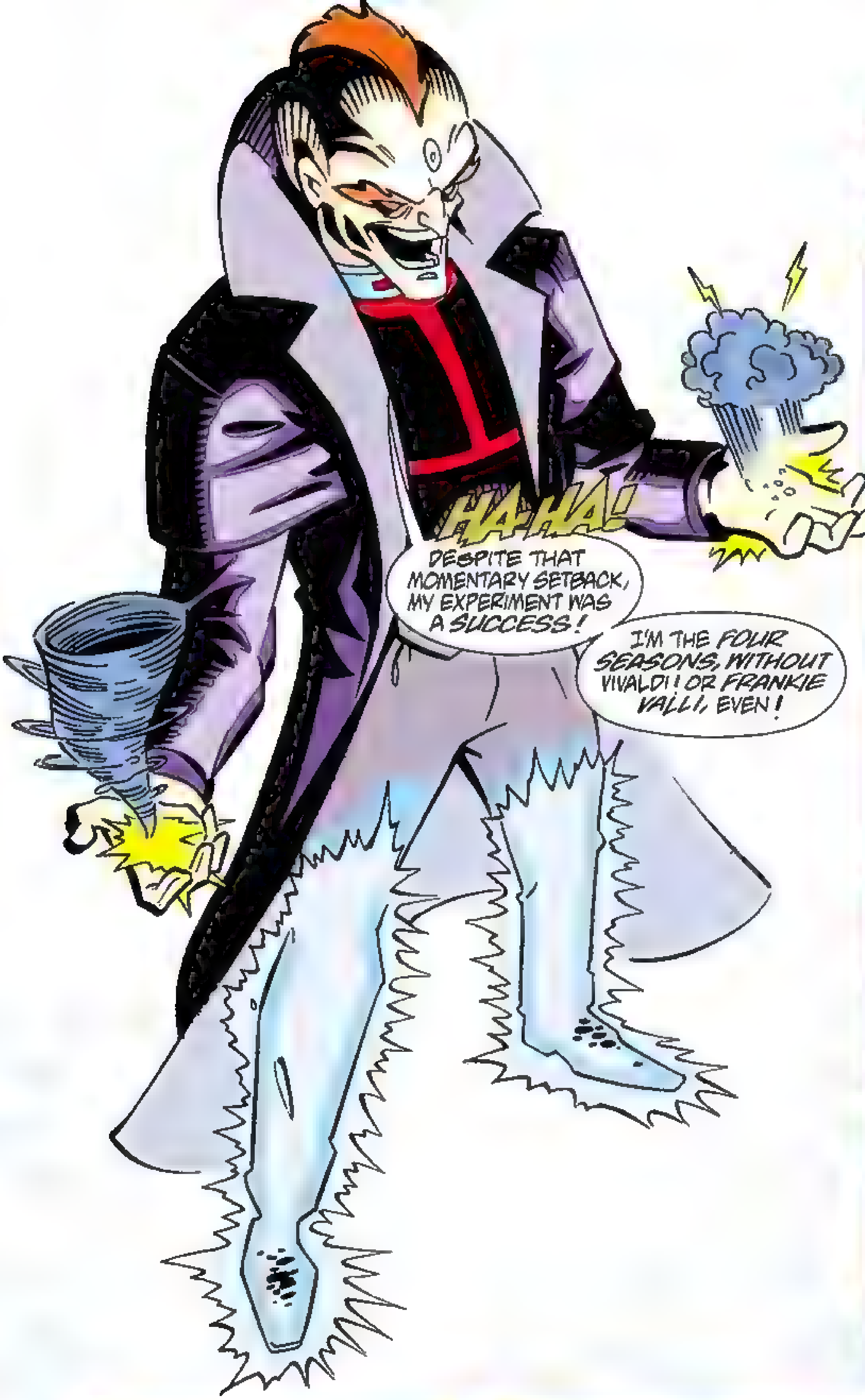

KWAMSH
BLEEEEEP
MARF!
I SAY, MILO, OLD CHAP.
WHEN WILL THOSE BLOODY YANKS STOP DRIVING ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD?
YEEP
SWOOSH

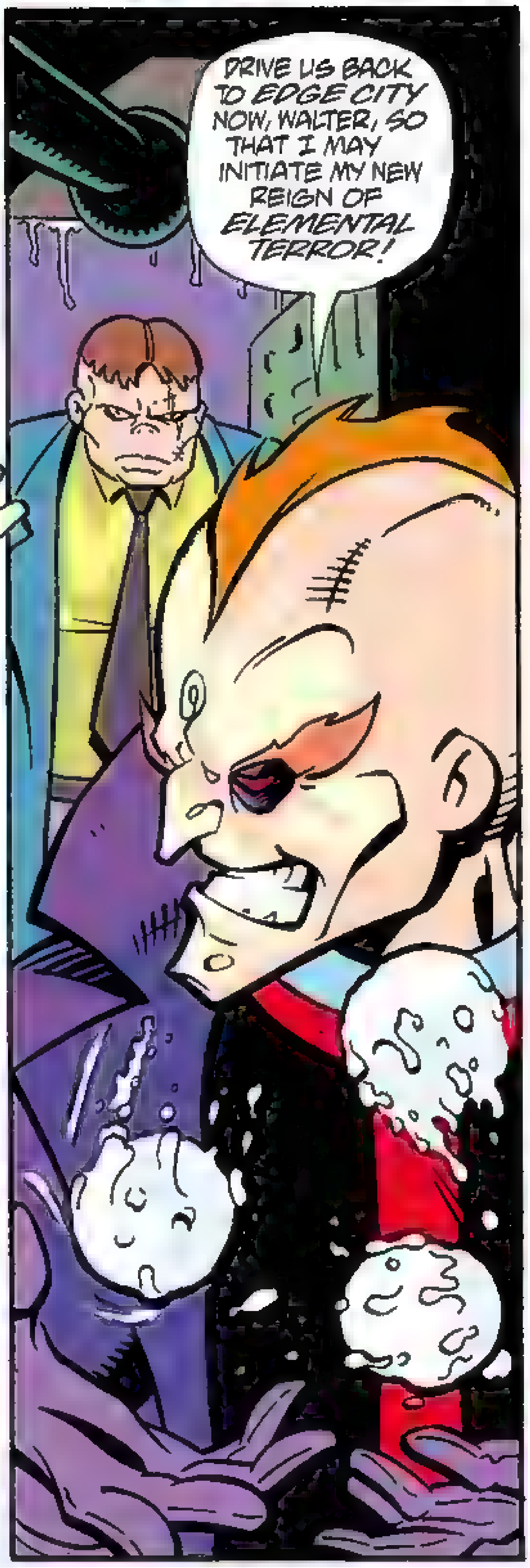

FWAP FWAP FWAP
DON'T LOSE YOUR DOG BISCUITS, MILO, BUT WE'RE FLYIN' THE FRIENDLY SKIES!
Haircuts! GETCHER HAIRCUTS, RIGHT CHERE!
FWAP FWAP
FWAP
FWAP FWAP FWAP
AEEEGAA!!

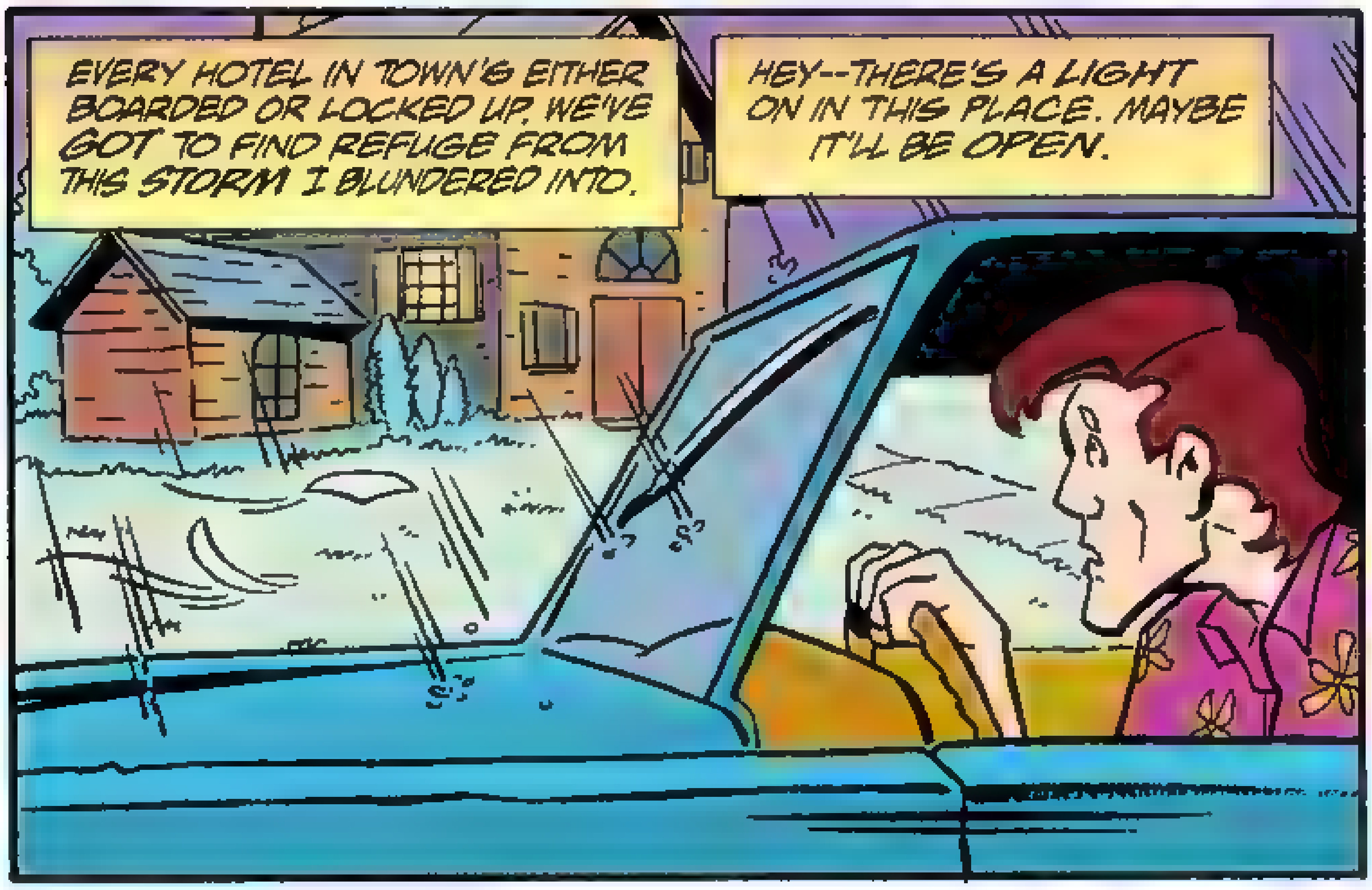

FWAP FWAP
FWAP
FWAP FWAP FWAP
BOY, IS THIS GIVING ME A WEDGIE!
MOTEL
COLOR TV
HOUSTON, THE BEAGLE HAS LANDED.
HIS MASTER, TOO.
FWOOOOOSH
OFFICE
WELL, WELL... OCRACOKE, NORTH CAROLINA. OUR FISHING PARADISE.
THE MASK DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME GETTING US HERE, DID HE, MILO?

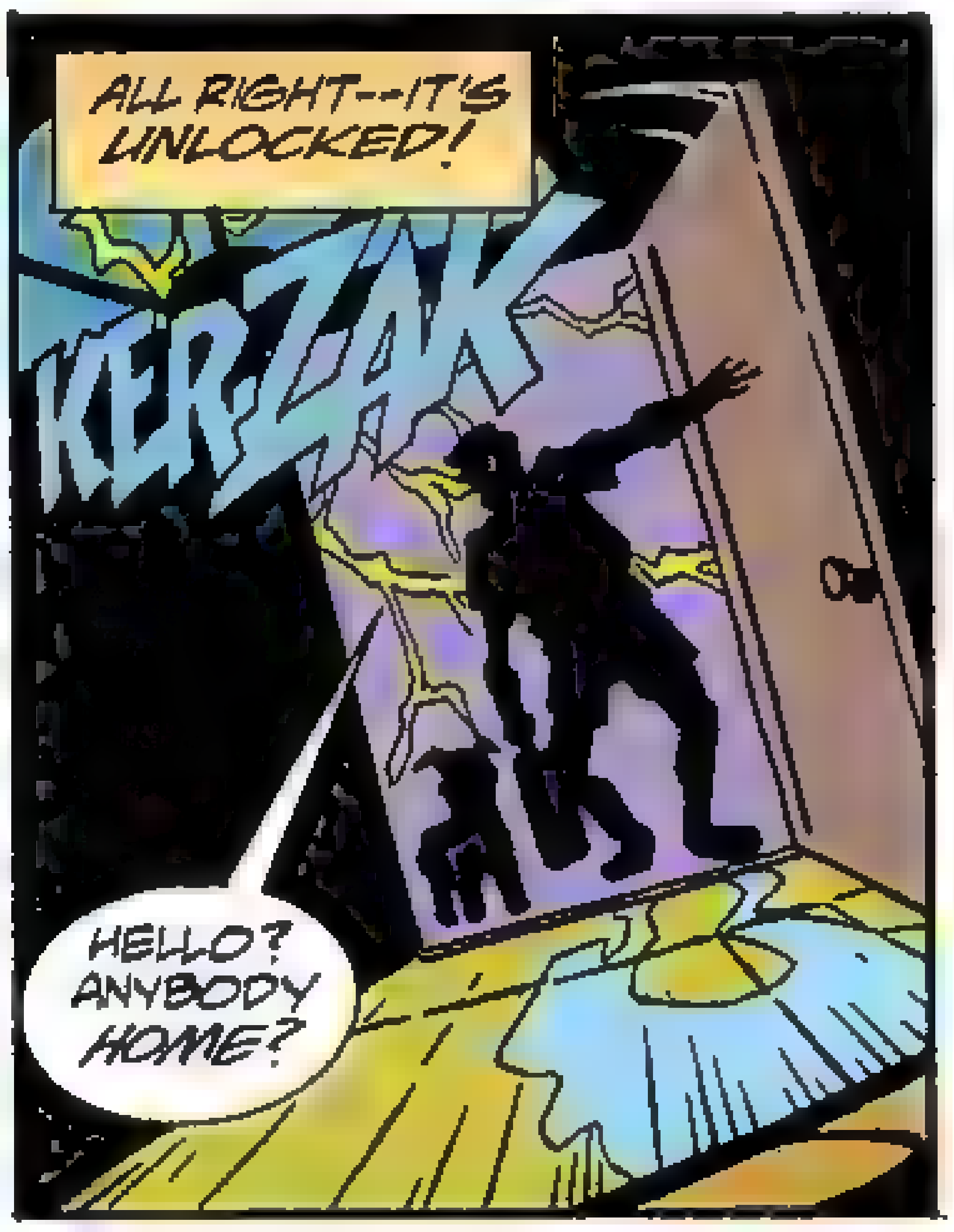

CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
HAVE A NICE DAY.
CLOSED? AW, GREAT! BUT WE HAVE RESERVATIONS...
FIRST A WRECK, AND NOW THIS. WHAT ELSE IS GONNA HAPPEN?
KRAKA-BOOM
CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
HAVE A NICE DAY.
PEGGY WAS RIGHT--I DO HAVE A HEAD FOR TROUBLE.
KCHANG
CHONGACHONG
HURMMMM
NOW, WALTER! PULL THE STRING!

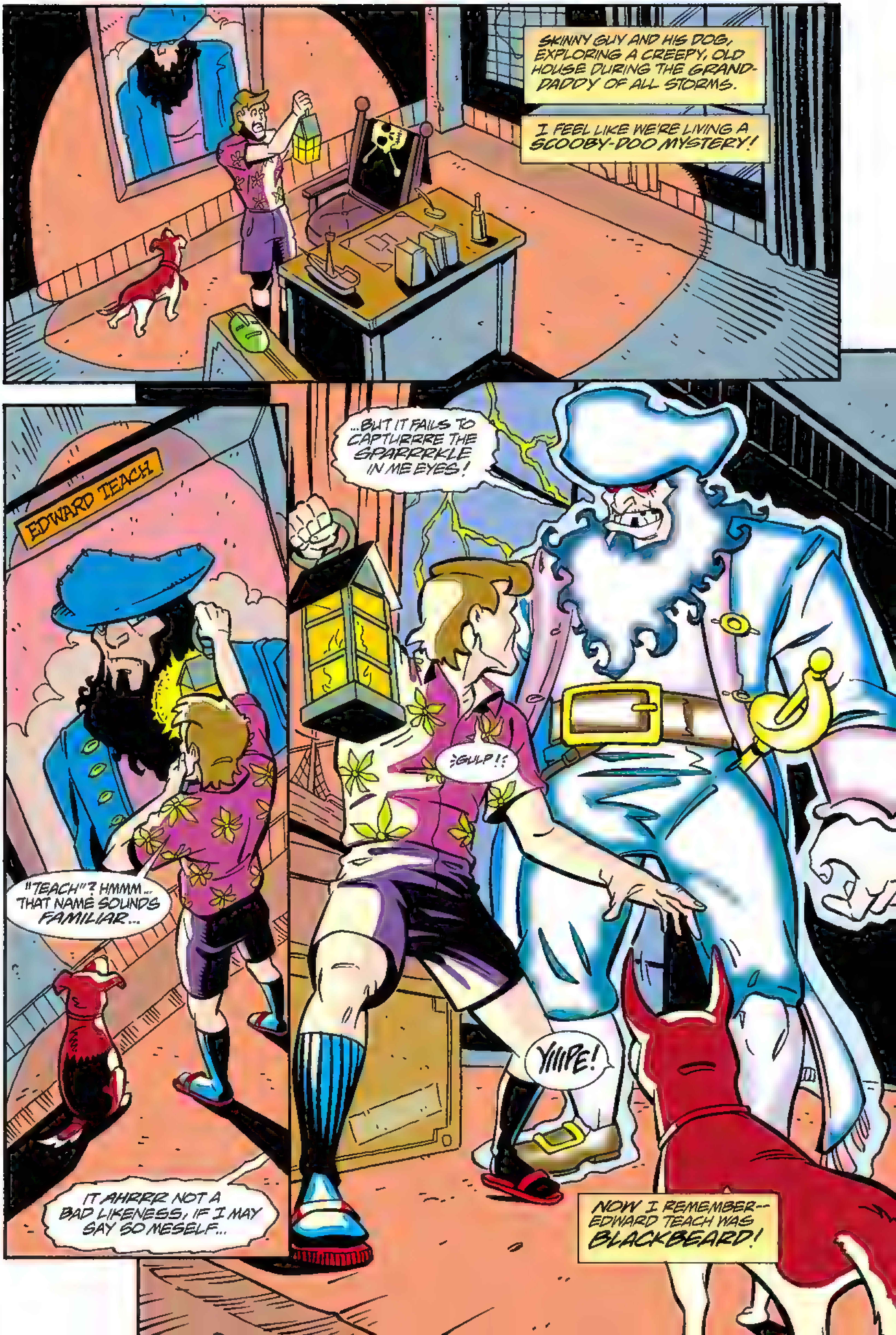

KZAK
HURMMMMM
YES...IT'S WORKING!
WAIT! I HADN'T CALCULATED ON HURRICANE DIANA BEING SO... POWERFUL!
KER
ZAK
I'M...OVER-LOADING!
ZZZ
ZZZAK
WOOK
QUEEN ANNE'S REVENGE
OOOOOOO
QUEEN ANNE'S REVENGE
1718

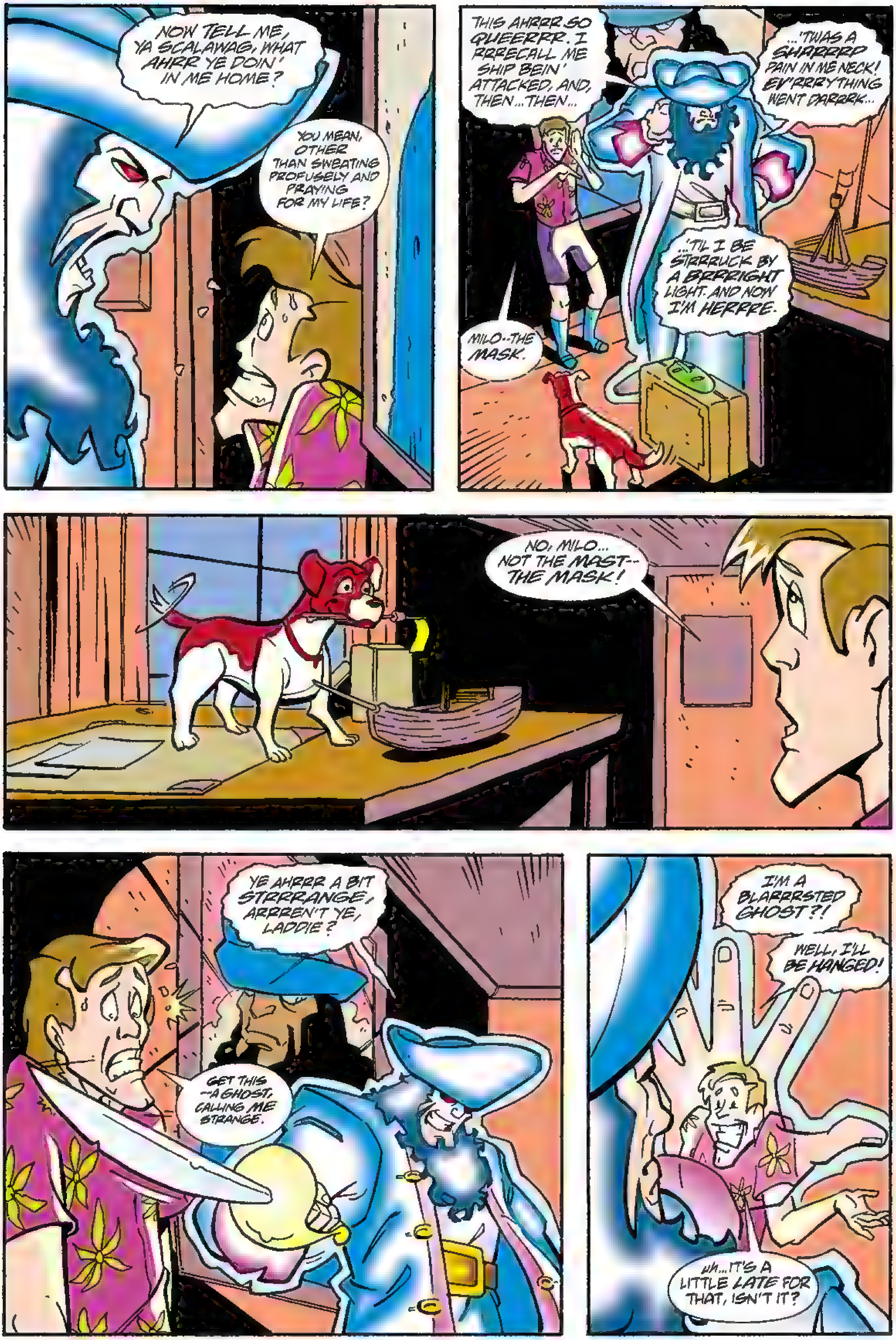

HA-HA!
DESPITE THAT MOMENTARY SETBACK, MY EXPERIMENT WAS A *SUCCESS*!
I'M THE *FOUR SEASONS*, WITHOUT VIVALDI! OR *FRANKIE VALLI*, EVEN!

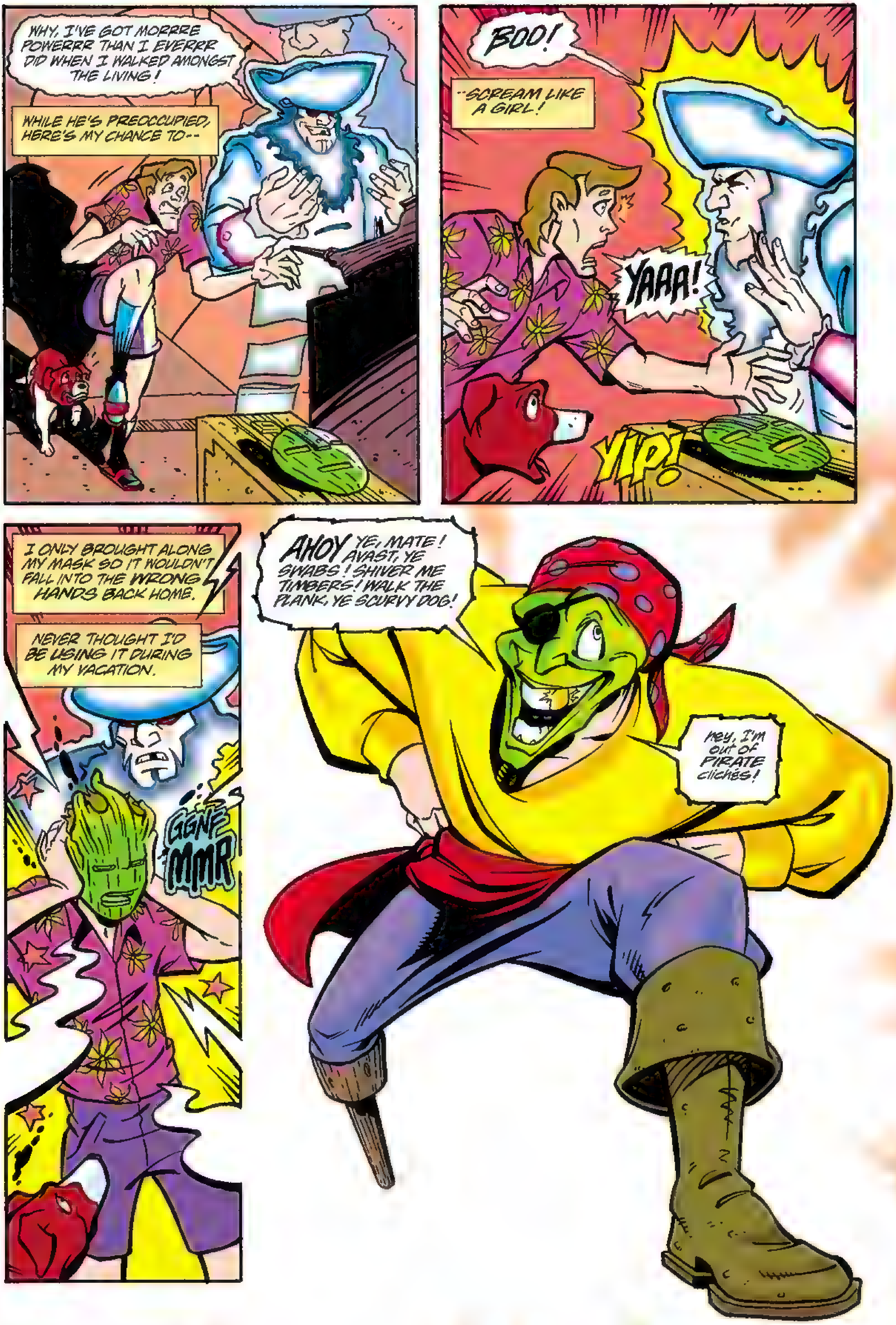

DRIVE US BACK TO *EDGE CITY* NOW, WALTER, SO THAT I MAY INITIATE MY NEW REIGN OF *ELEMENTAL TERROR!*

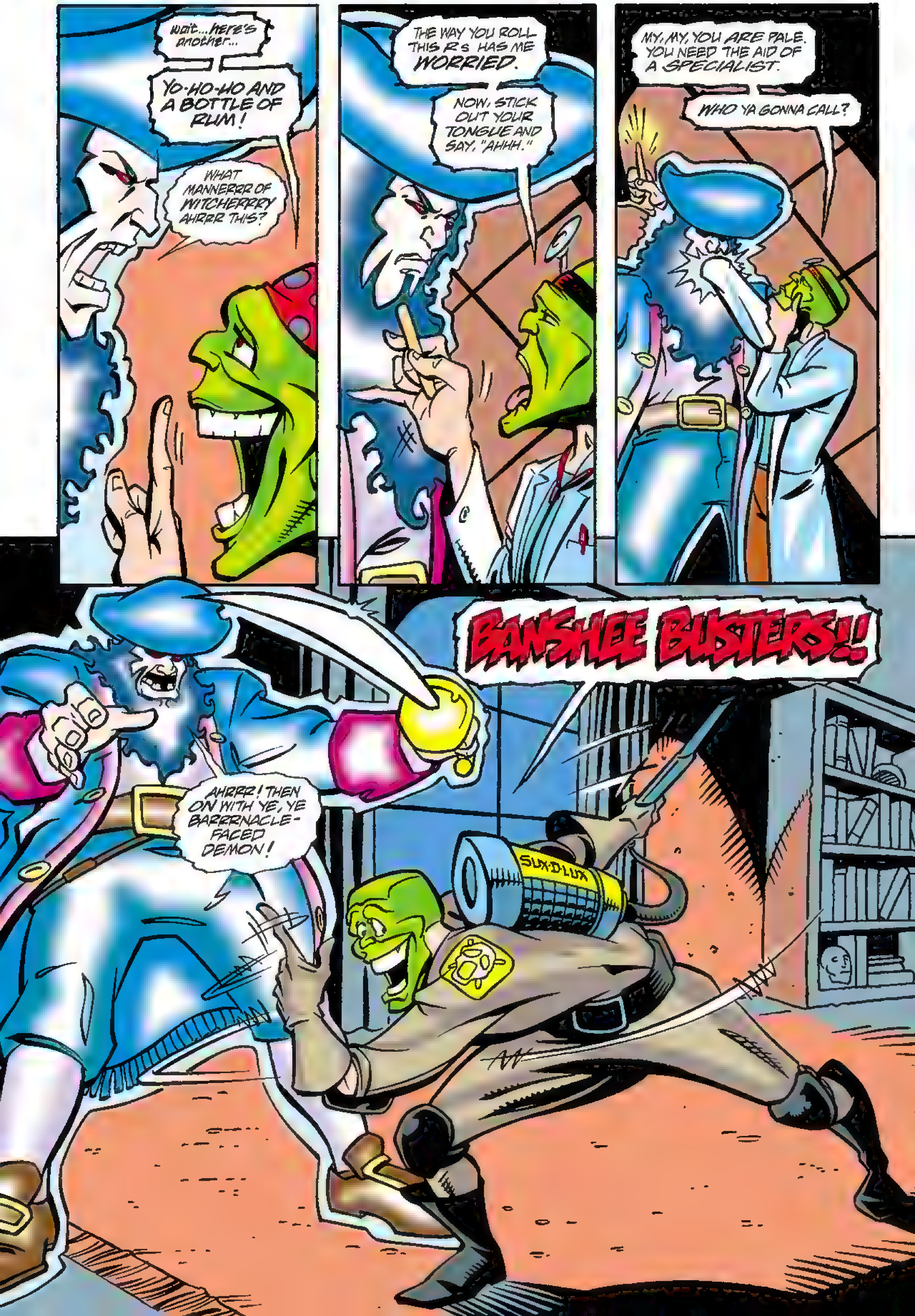

EVERY HOTEL IN TOWN'S EITHER BOARDED OR LOCKED UP. WE'VE GOT TO FIND REFUGE FROM THIS STORM I BLUNDERED INTO.
HEY--THERE'S A LIGHT ON IN THIS PLACE. MAYBE IT'LL BE OPEN.

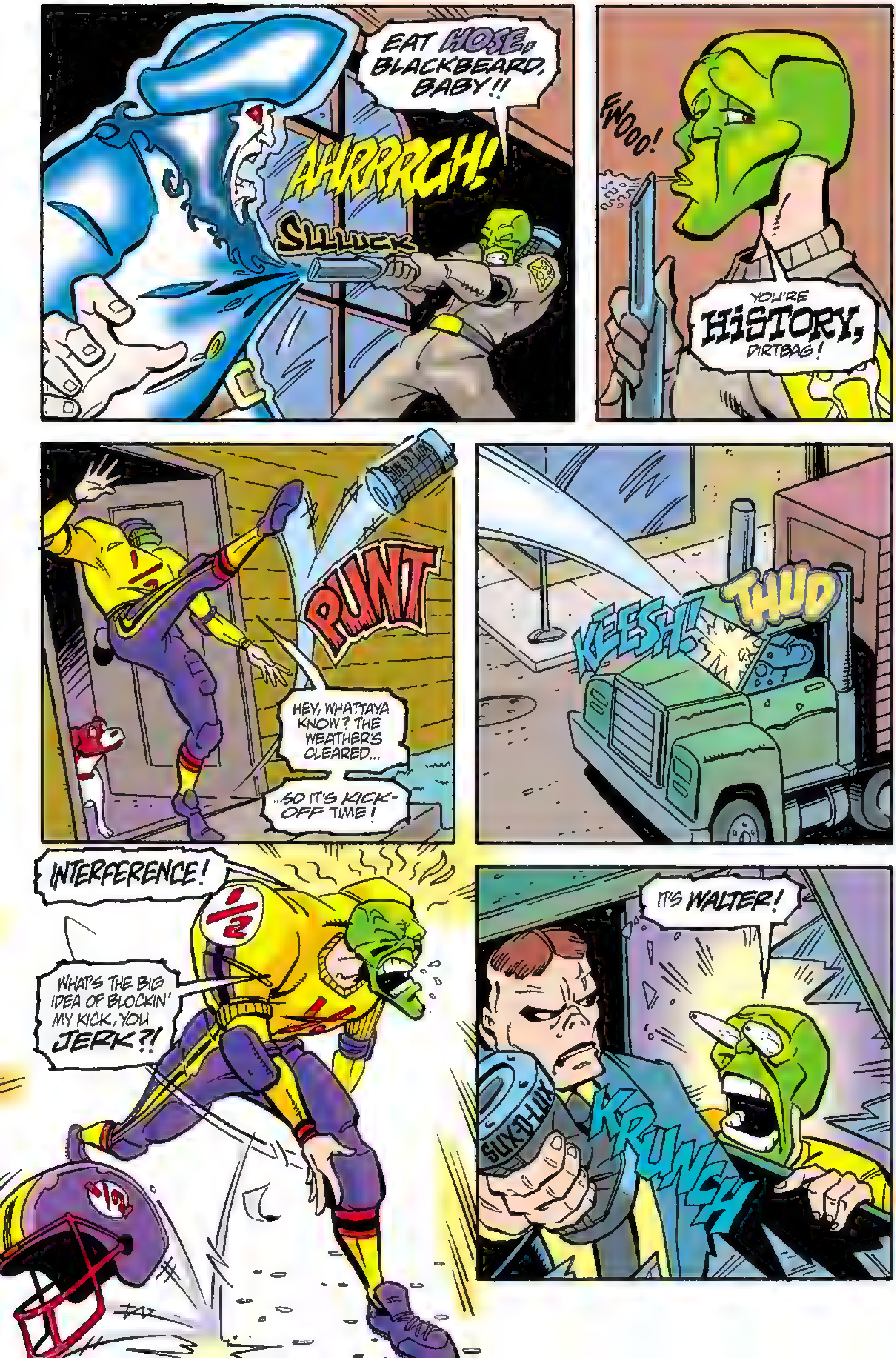

ALL RIGHT--IT'S *UNLOCKED!*
KER-ZAK
HELLO? ANYBODY *HOME?*

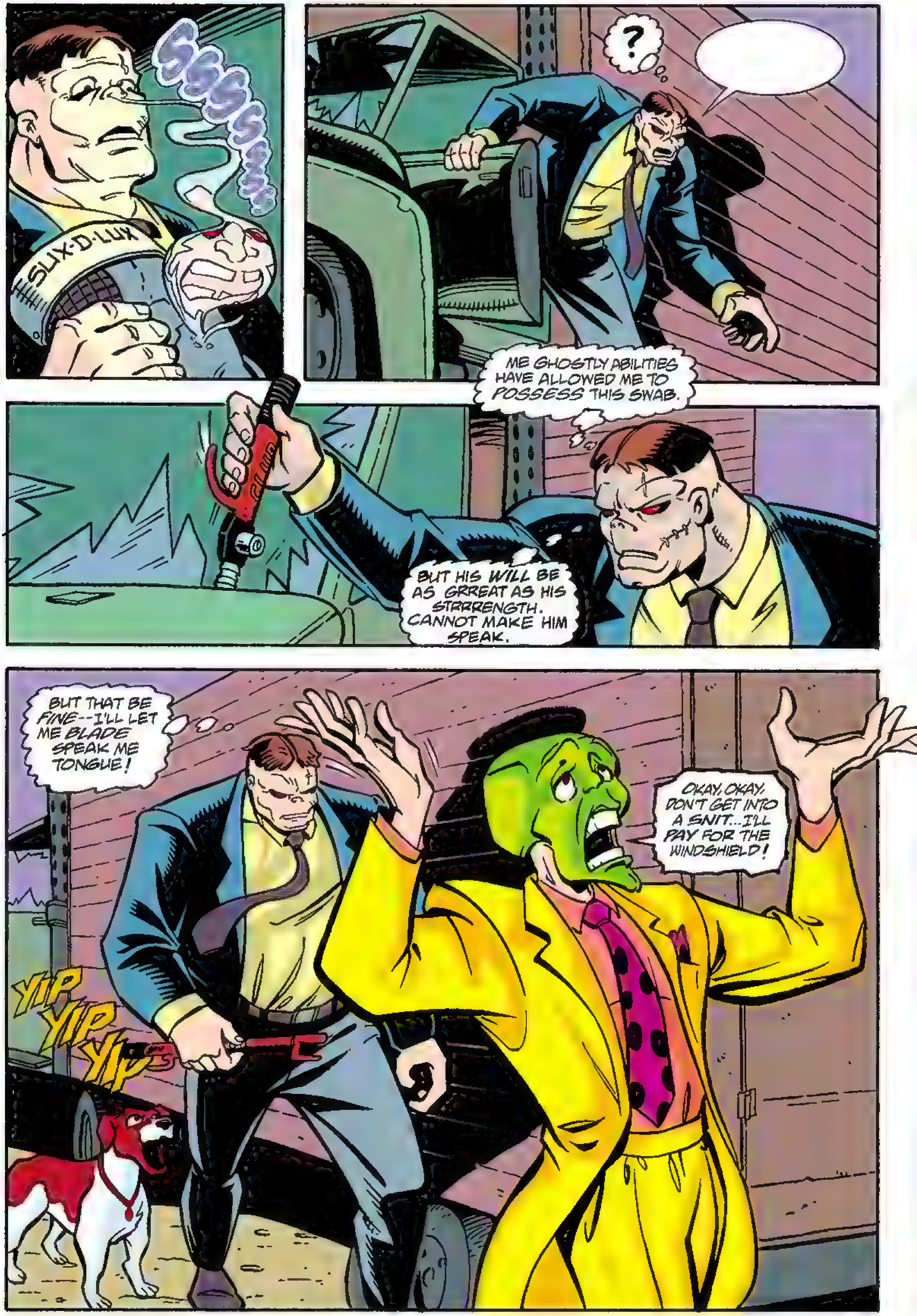

SKINNY GUY AND HIS DOG, EXPLORING A CREEPY, OLD HOUSE DURING THE GRAND-DADDY OF ALL STORMS.
I FEEL LIKE WE'RE LIVING A SCOOBY-DOO MYSTERY!
EDWARD TEACH
"TEACH"? HMMM... THAT NAME SOUNDS FAMILIAR...
IT AHRRR NOT A BAD LIKENESS, IF I MAY SAY SO MESELF...
...BUT IT FAILS TO CAPTURRRE THE SPARRRKLE IN ME EYES!
GULP!!
YIIIPE!
NOW I REMEMBER-- EDWARD TEACH WAS BLACKBEARD!

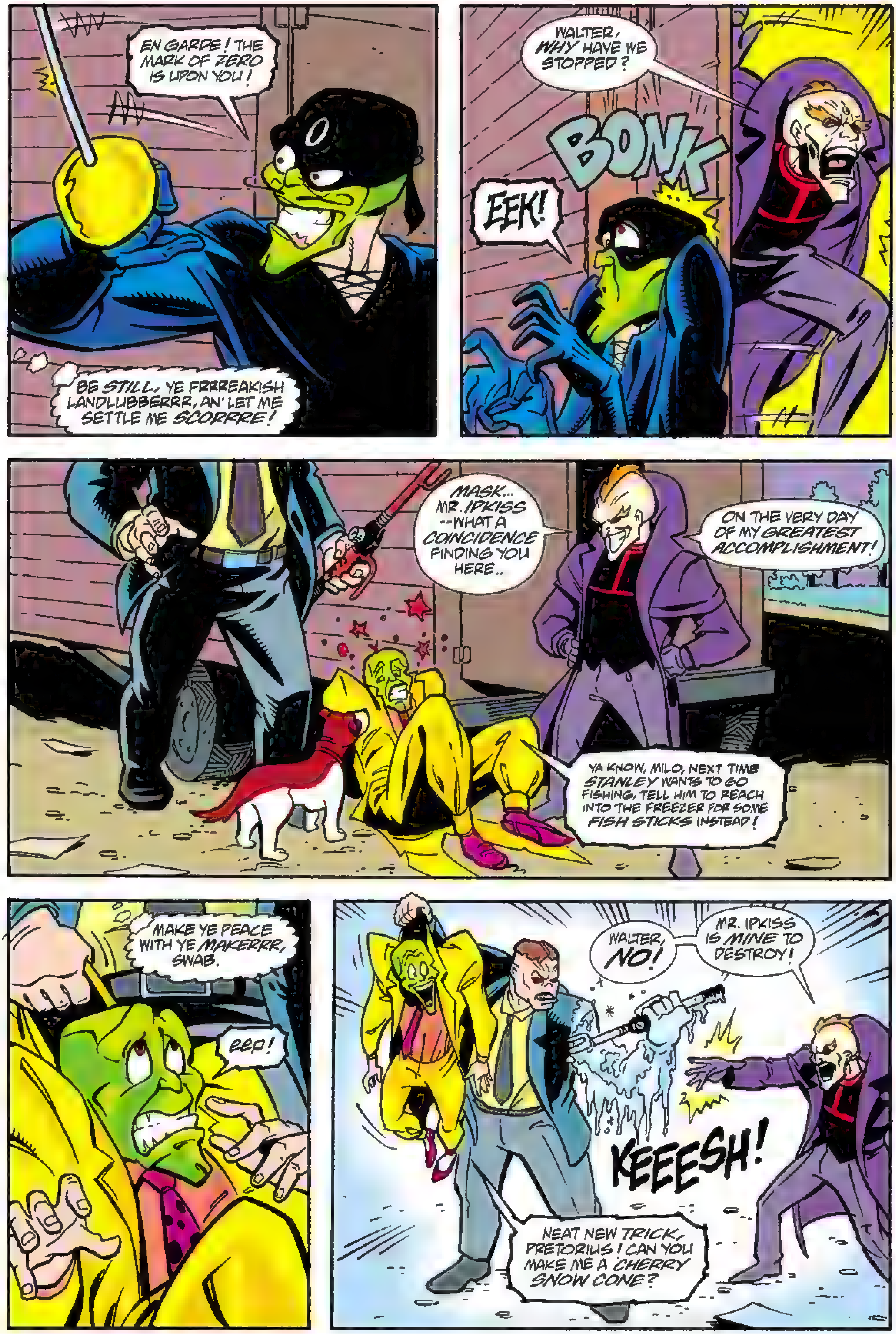

NOW TELL ME, YA SCALAWAG, WHAT AHRR YE DOIN' IN ME HOME?
YOU MEAN, OTHER THAN SWEATING PROFUSELY AND PRAYING FOR MY LIFE?
THIS AHRRR SO QUEERRR. I RRRECALL ME SHIP BEIN' ATTACKED, AND, THEN...THEN...
...'TWAS A SHARRRP PAIN IN ME NECK! EV'RRRYTHING WENT DARRRK...
...'TIL I BE STRRRUCK BY A BRRRIGHT LIGHT. AND NOW I'M HERRRE.
MILO--THE MASK.
NO, MILO... NOT THE MAST-- THE MASK!
YE AHRRR A BIT STRRRANGE, ARRREN'T YE, LADDIE?
GET THIS --A GHOST, CALLING ME STRANGE.
I'M A BLARRRSTED GHOST?!
WELL, I'LL BE HANGED!
UH...IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT, ISN'T IT?

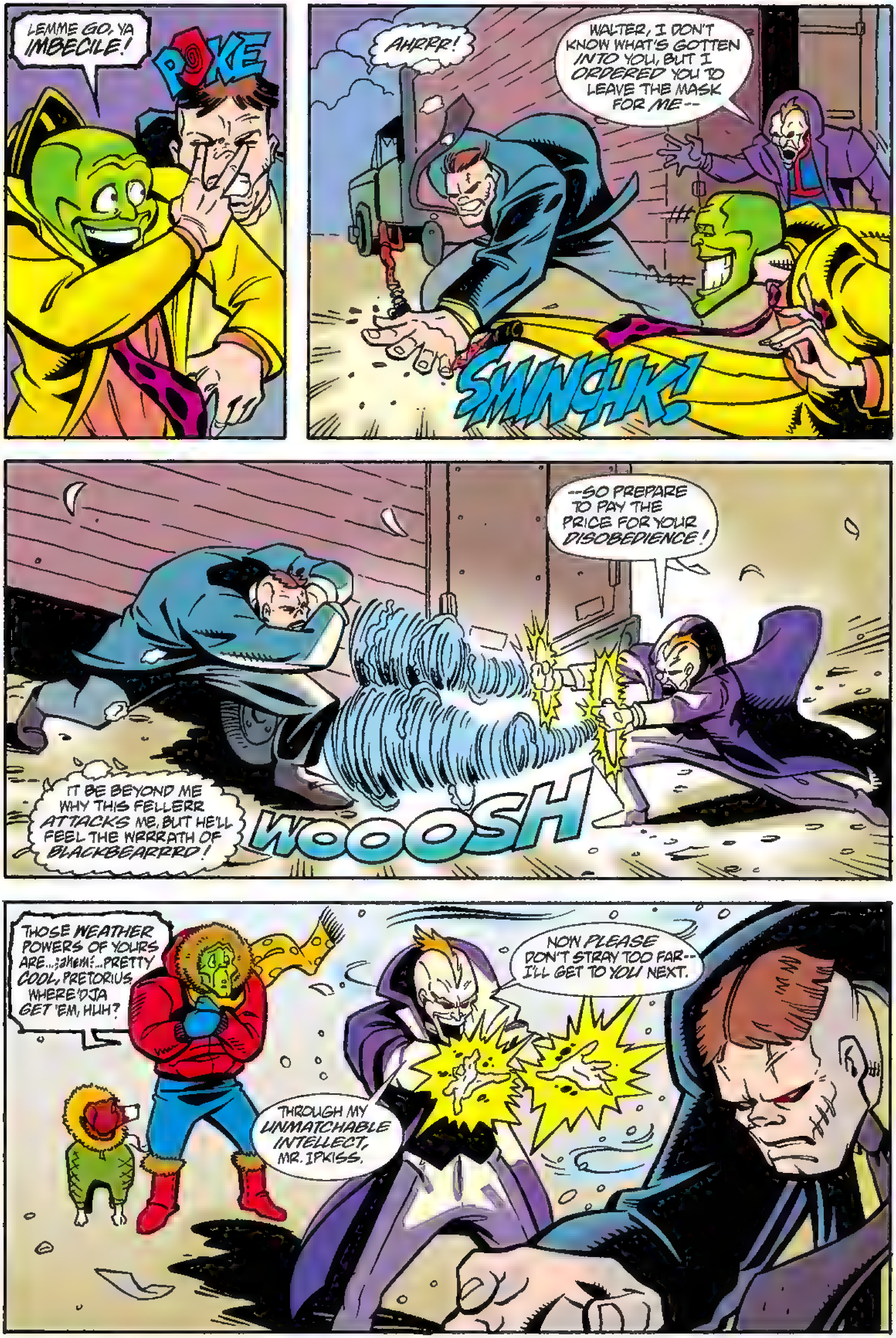

WHY, I'VE GOT MORRRE POWERRR THAN I EVERRR DID WHEN I WALKED AMONGST THE LIVING!
WHILE HE'S PREOCCUPIED, HERE'S MY CHANCE TO--
BOO!
--SCREAM LIKE A GIRL!
YAAA!
YIP!
I ONLY BROUGHT ALONG MY MASK SO IT WOULDN'T FALL INTO THE WRONG HANDS BACK HOME.
NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE USING IT DURING MY VACATION.
GGNF MMR
AHOY YE, MATE! AVAST, YE SWABS! SHIVER ME TIMBERS! WALK THE PLANK, YE SCURVY DOG!
hey, I'm out of PIRATE clichés!

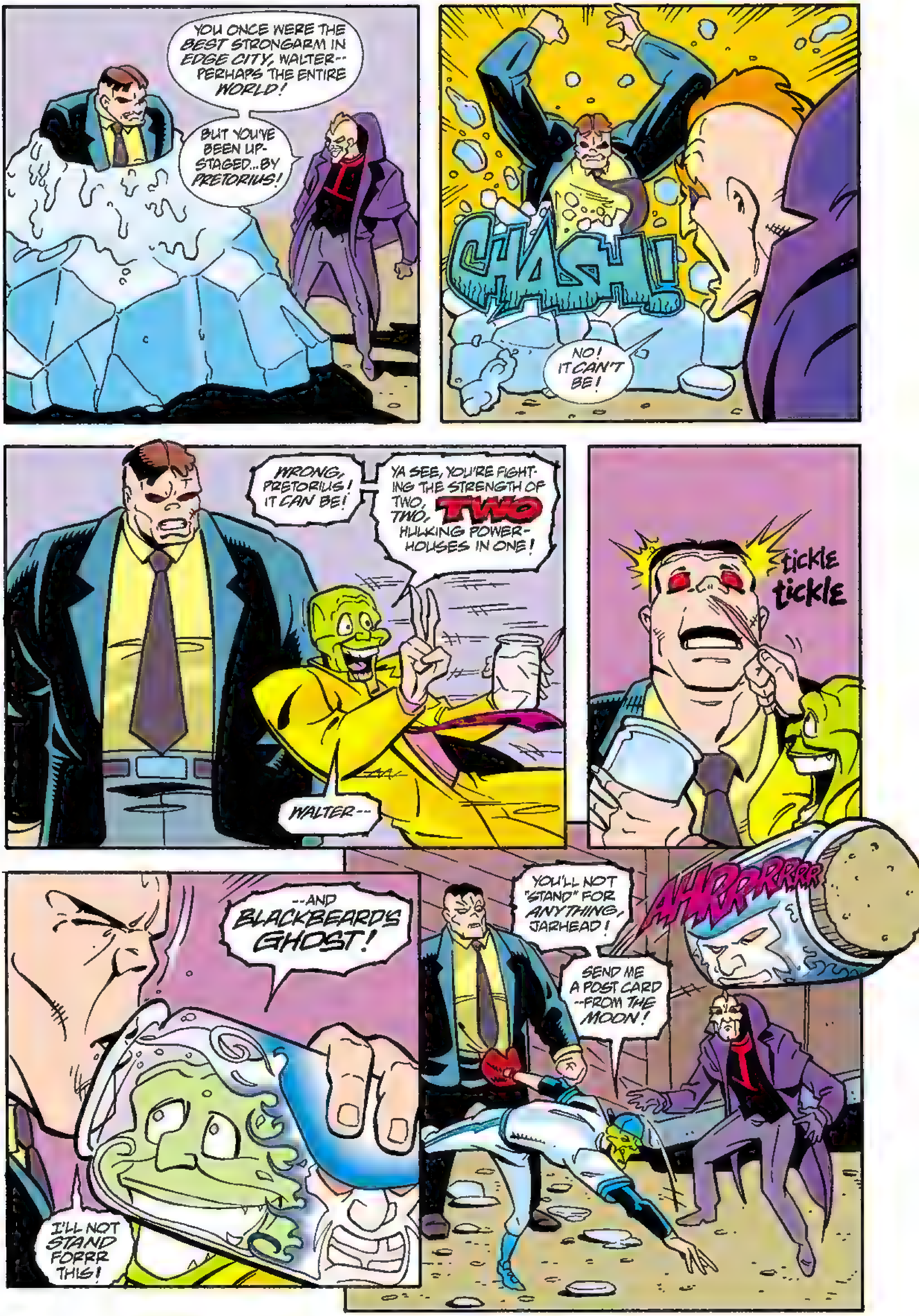

wait...here's another...
YO-HO-HO AND A BOTTLE OF RUM!
WHAT MANNERRR OF WITCHERRRY AHRRR THIS?
THE WAY YOU ROLL THIS Rs HAS ME WORRIED.
NOW, STICK OUT YOUR TONGUE AND SAY, "AHHH."
MY, MY, YOU ARE PALE. YOU NEED THE AID OF A SPECIALIST.
WHO YA GONNA CALL?
BANSHEE BUSTERS!!
AHRRR! THEN ON WITH YE, YE BARRRNACLE-FACED DEMON!
SUX-D-LUX

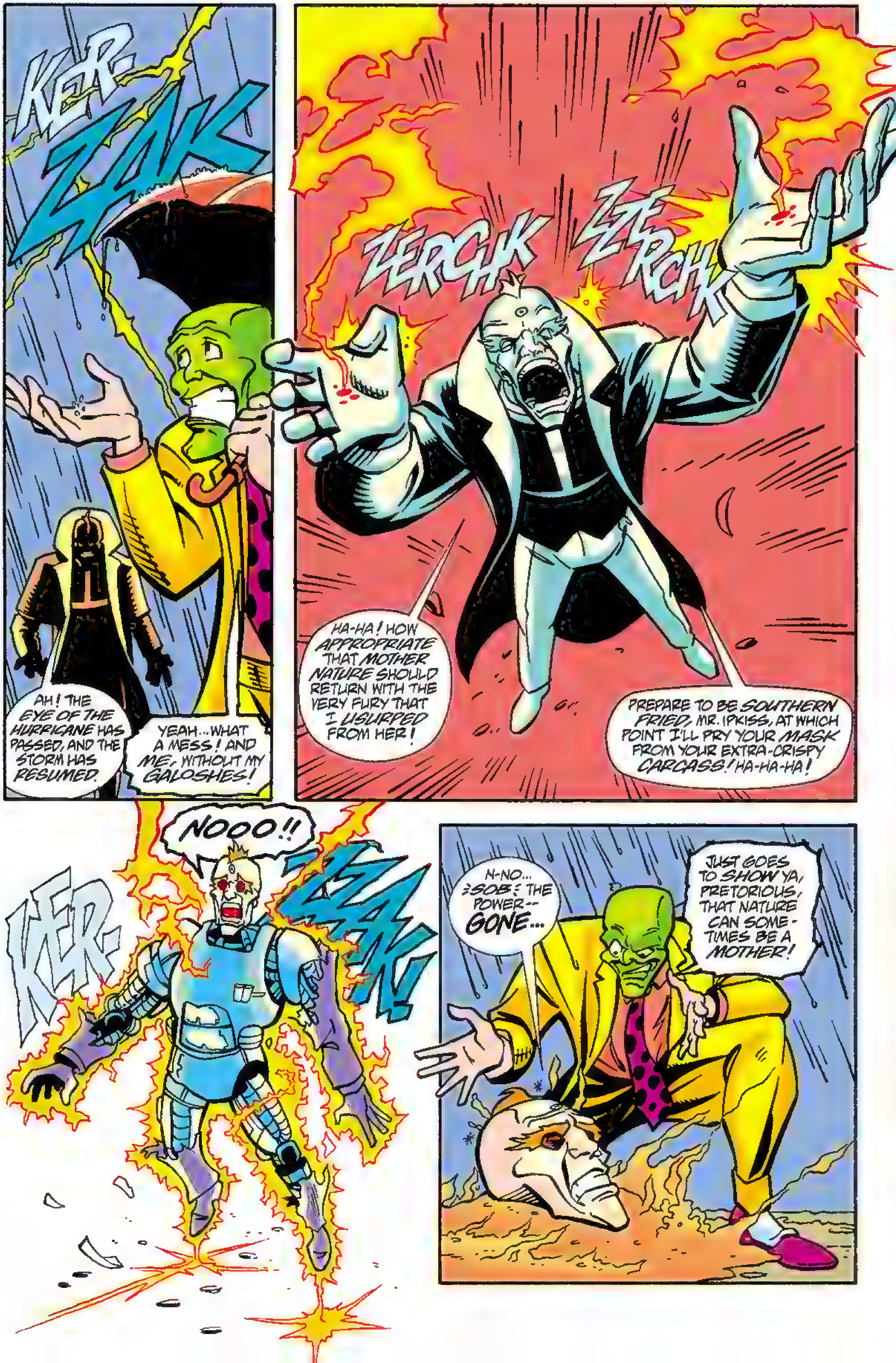

EAT HOSE, BLACKBEARD, BABY!!
AHRRRGH!
SLLLUCK
FWOOO!
YOU'RE HISTORY, DIRTBAG!
SUX-O-LUX
PUNT
HEY, WHATTAYA KNOW? THE WEATHER'S CLEARED...
...SO IT'S KICK-OFF TIME!
KEESH!
THUD
INTERFERENCE!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA OF BLOCKIN' MY KICK, YOU JERK?!
IT'S WALTER!
SUX-O-LUX
KRUNCH

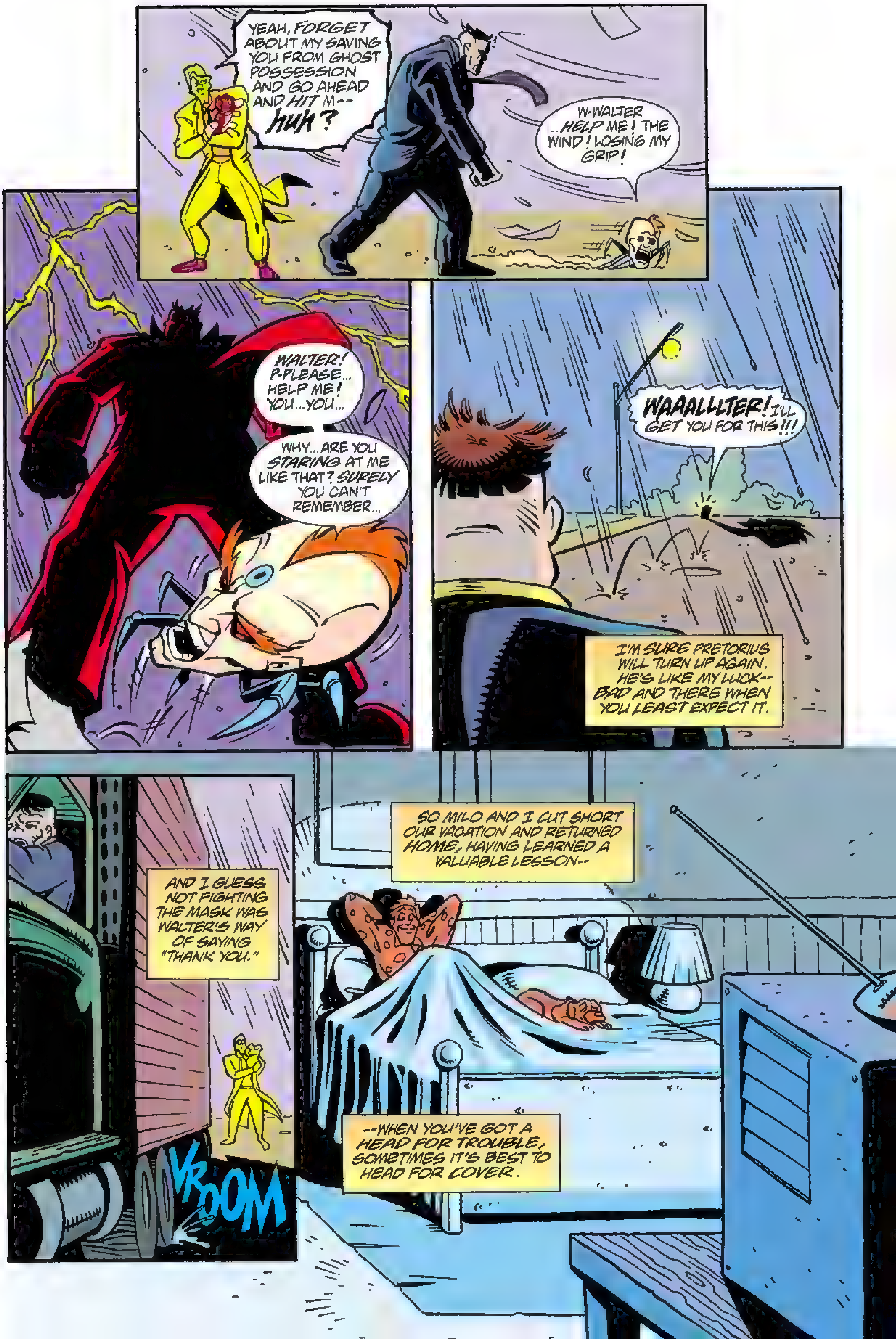

SSSSSSSS
SLIX-D-LUX
?
ME GHOSTLY ABILITIES HAVE ALLOWED ME TO POSSESS THIS SWAB.
BUT HIS WILL BE AS GRREAT AS HIS STRRRENGTH. CANNOT MAKE HIM SPEAK.
BUT THAT BE FINE--I'LL LET ME BLADE SPEAK ME TONGUE!
OKAY, OKAY, DON'T GET INTO A SNIT...I'LL PAY FOR THE WINDSHIELD!
YIP YIP YIP


EN GARDE! THE MARK OF ZERO IS UPON YOU!
BE STILL, YE FRRREAKISH LANDLUBBERRR, AN' LET ME SETTLE ME SCORRRE!
WALTER, WHY HAVE WE STOPPED?
BONK
EEK!
MASK... MR. IPKISS --WHAT A COINCIDENCE FINDING YOU HERE..
ON THE VERY DAY OF MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT!
YA KNOW, MILO, NEXT TIME STANLEY WANTS TO GO FISHING, TELL HIM TO REACH INTO THE FREEZER FOR SOME FISH STICKS INSTEAD!
MAKE YE PEACE WITH YE MAKERRR, SWAB.
eep!
WALTER, NO!
MR. IPKISS IS MINE TO DESTROY!
KEEESH!
NEAT NEW TRICK, PRETORIUS! CAN YOU MAKE ME A CHERRY SNOW CONE?

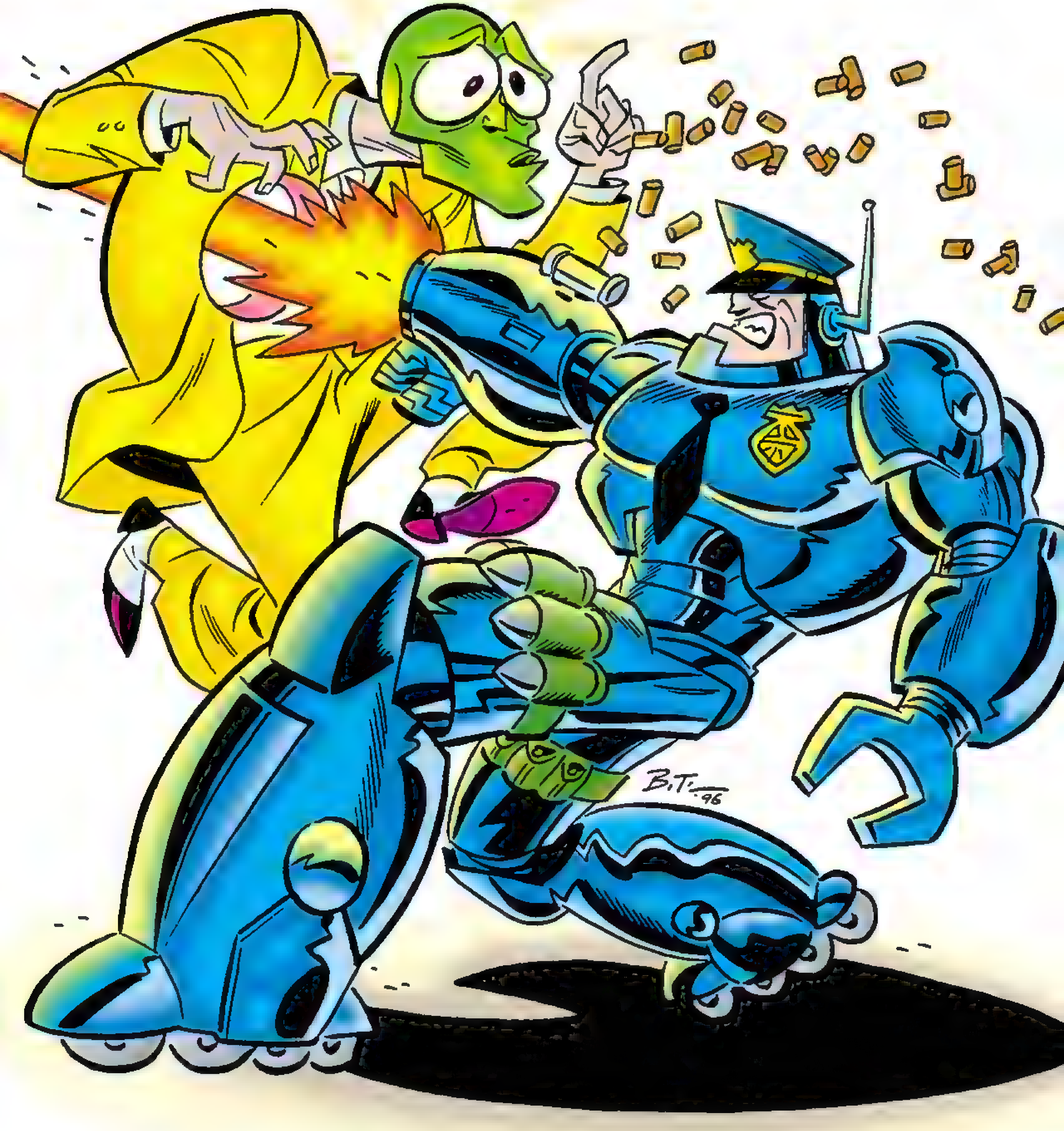

LEMME GO, YA IMBECILE!
POKE
AHRRR!
WALTER, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU, BUT I ORDERED YOU TO LEAVE THE MASK FOR ME--
SHUNCHK!
--SO PREPARE TO PAY THE PRICE FOR YOUR DISOBEDIENCE!
IT BE BEYOND ME WHY THIS FELLERR ATTACKS ME, BUT HE'LL FEEL THE WRRRATH OF BLACKBEARRRD!
WOOOSH
THOSE WEATHER POWERS OF YOURS ARE...;ahem;...PRETTY COOL, PRETORIUS. WHERE'DJA GET 'EM, HUH?
NOW PLEASE DON'T STRAY TOO FAR-- I'LL GET TO YOU NEXT.
THROUGH MY UNMATCHABLE INTELLECT, MR. IPKISS.


YOU ONCE WERE THE BEST STRONGARM IN EDGE CITY, WALTER-- PERHAPS THE ENTIRE WORLD!
BUT YOU'VE BEEN UP-STAGED...BY PRETORIUS!
CHASH!
NO! IT CAN'T BE!
WRONG, PRETORIUS! IT CAN BE!
YA SEE, YOU'RE FIGHTING THE STRENGTH OF TWO, TWO, TWO HULKING POWERHOUSES IN ONE!
WALTER--
tickle tickle
--AND BLACKBEARD'S GHOST!
I'LL NOT STAND FORRR THIS!
YOU'LL NOT "STAND" FOR ANYTHING, JARHEAD!
AHRRRRRRR
SEND ME A POST CARD --FROM THE MOON!


KER-ZAK
AH! THE EYE OF THE HURRICANE HAS PASSED, AND THE STORM HAS RESUMED.
YEAH... WHAT A MESS! AND ME, WITHOUT MY GALOSHES!
ZERCHK
ZZERCHK
HA-HA! HOW APPROPRIATE THAT MOTHER NATURE SHOULD RETURN WITH THE VERY FURY THAT I USURPED FROM HER!
PREPARE TO BE SOUTHERN FRIED, MR. IPKISS, AT WHICH POINT I'LL PRY YOUR MASK FROM YOUR EXTRA-CRISPY CARCASS! HA-HA-HA!
NOOO!!
KER-ZAK!
N-NO... SOB THE POWER-- GONE...
JUST GOES TO SHOW YA, PRETORIOUS, THAT NATURE CAN SOMETIMES BE A MOTHER!


YEAH, FORGET ABOUT MY SAVING YOU FROM GHOST POSSESSION AND GO AHEAD AND HIT M-- huh?
W-WALTER ..HELP ME! THE WIND! LOSING MY GRIP!
WALTER! P-PLEASE... HELP ME! YOU...YOU...
WHY...ARE YOU STARING AT ME LIKE THAT? SURELY YOU CAN'T REMEMBER...
WAAALLLTER! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!!!
I'M SURE PRETORIUS WILL TURN UP AGAIN. HE'S LIKE MY LUCK-- BAD AND THERE WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT.
AND I GUESS NOT FIGHTING THE MASK WAS WALTER'S WAY OF SAYING "THANK YOU."
VROOM
SO MILO AND I CUT SHORT OUR VACATION AND RETURNED HOME, HAVING LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON--
--WHEN YOU'VE GOT A HEAD FOR TROUBLE, SOMETIMES IT'S BEST TO HEAD FOR COVER.

I WEAR THE BODY ELECTRONIC



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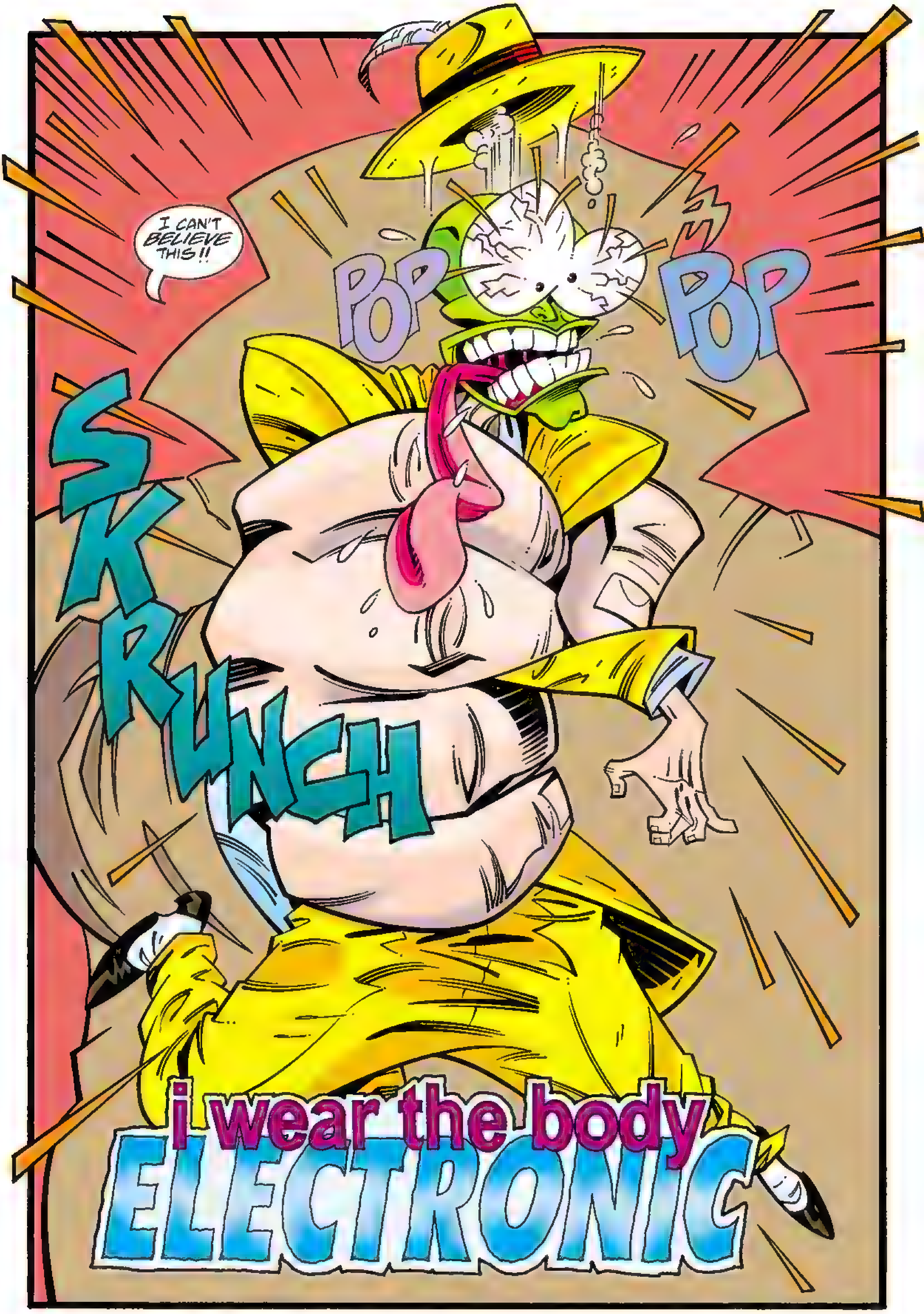
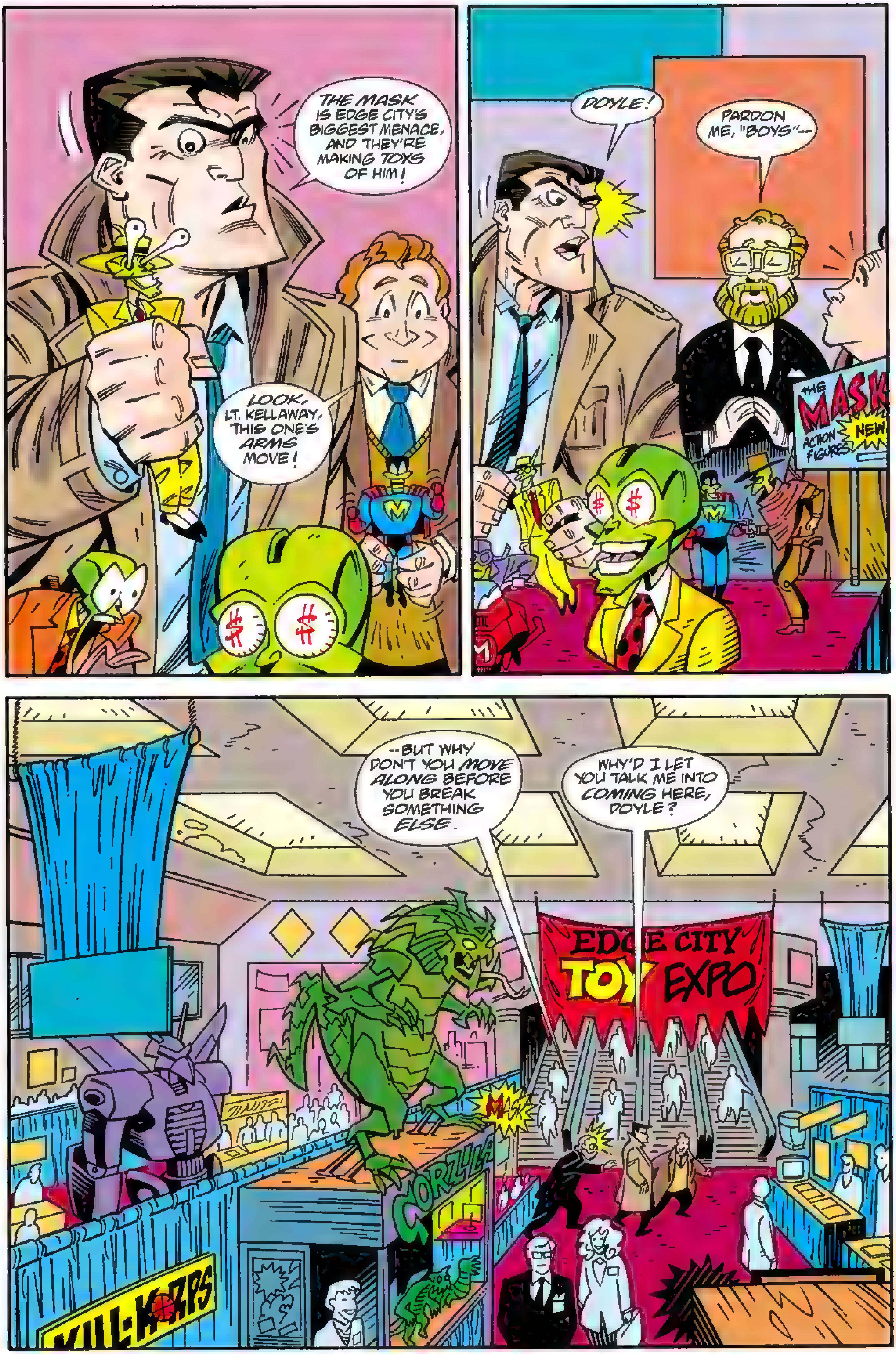
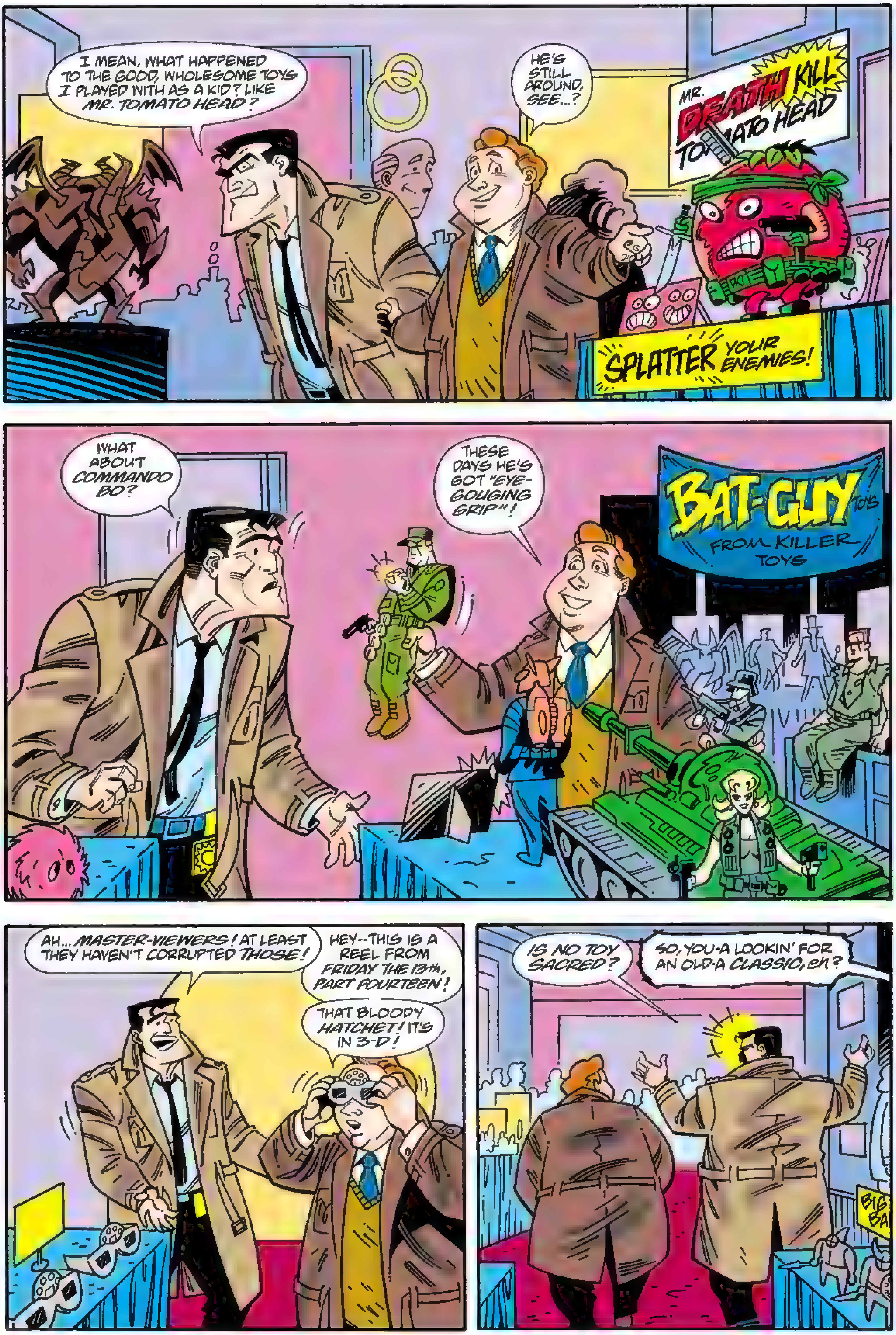
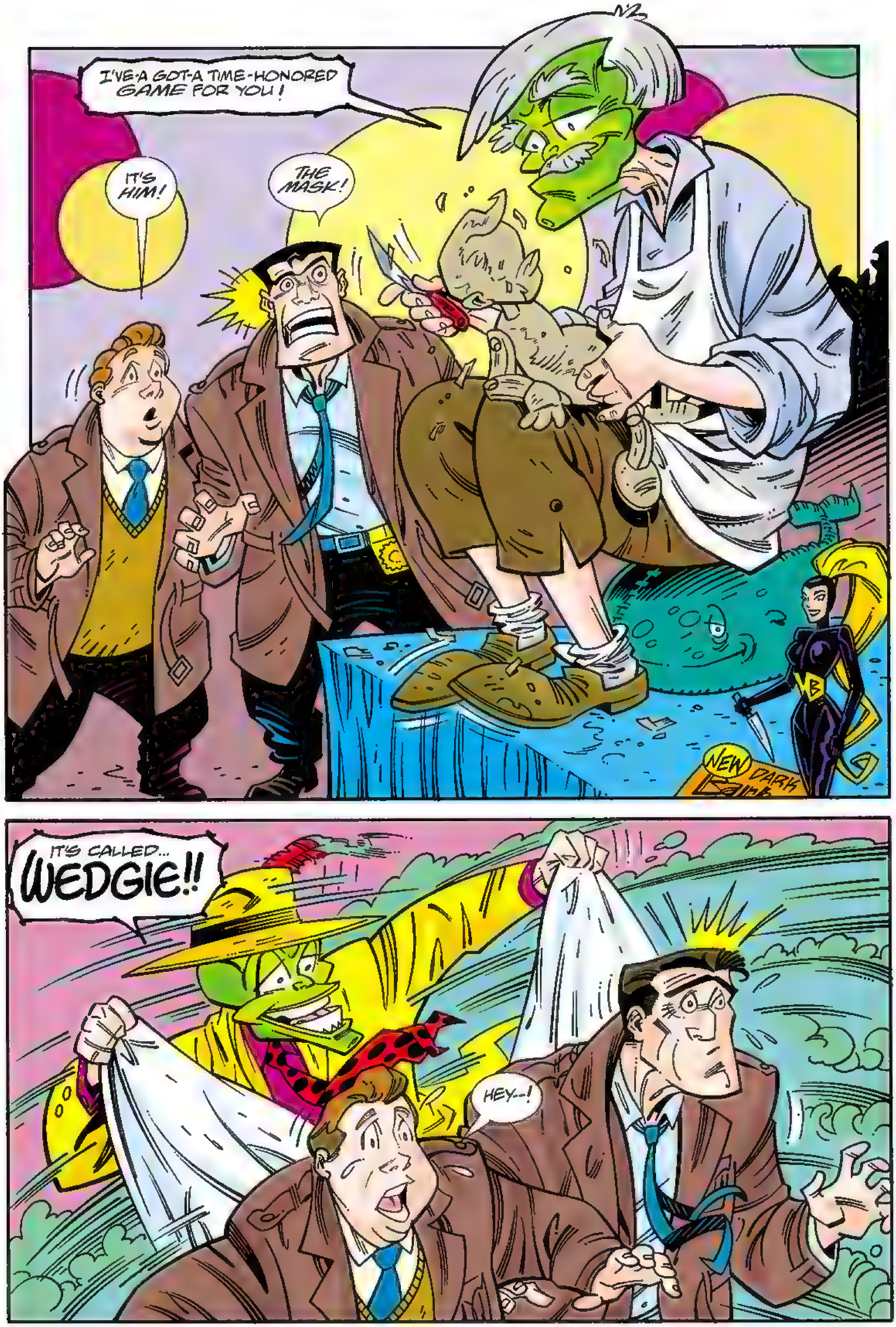
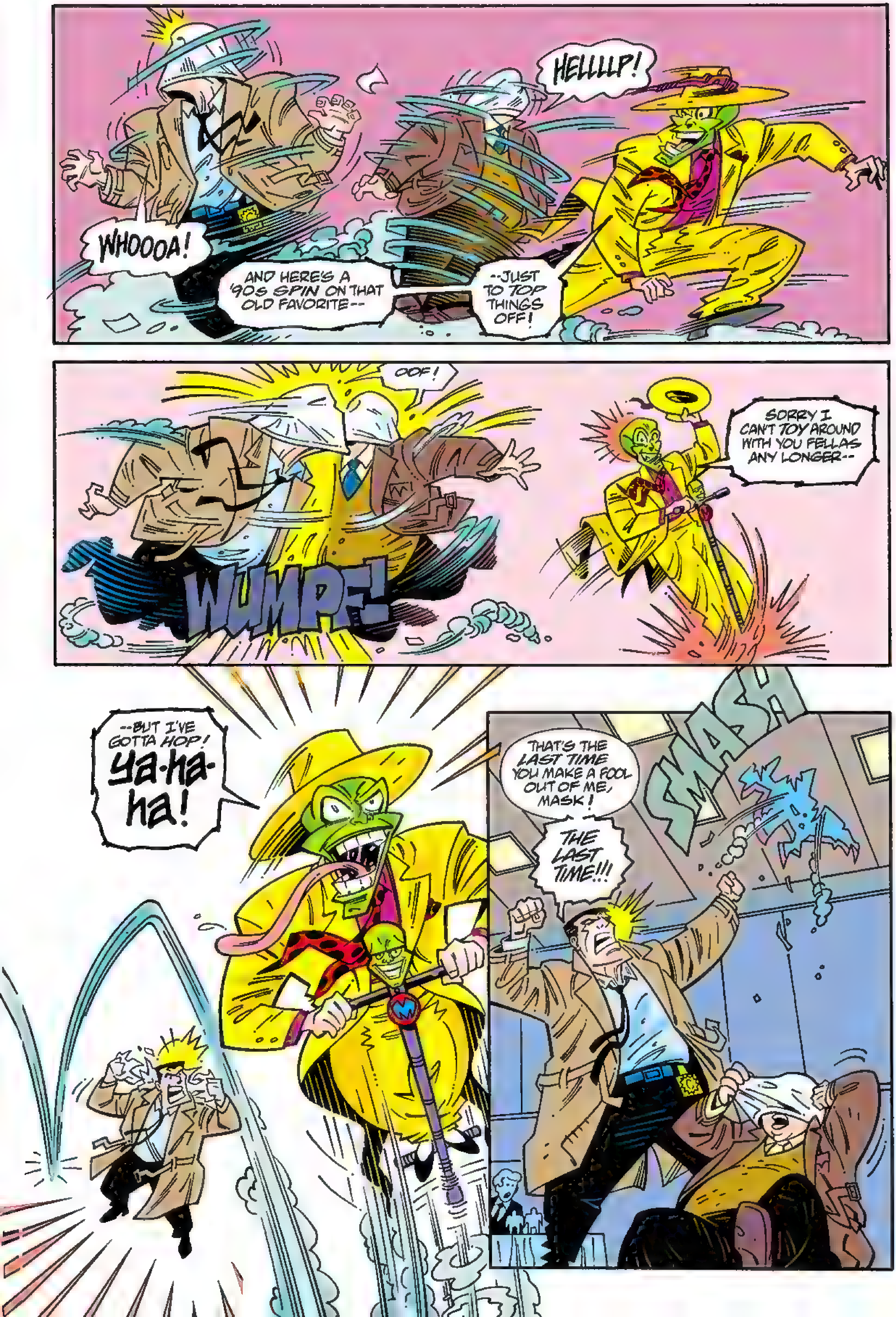
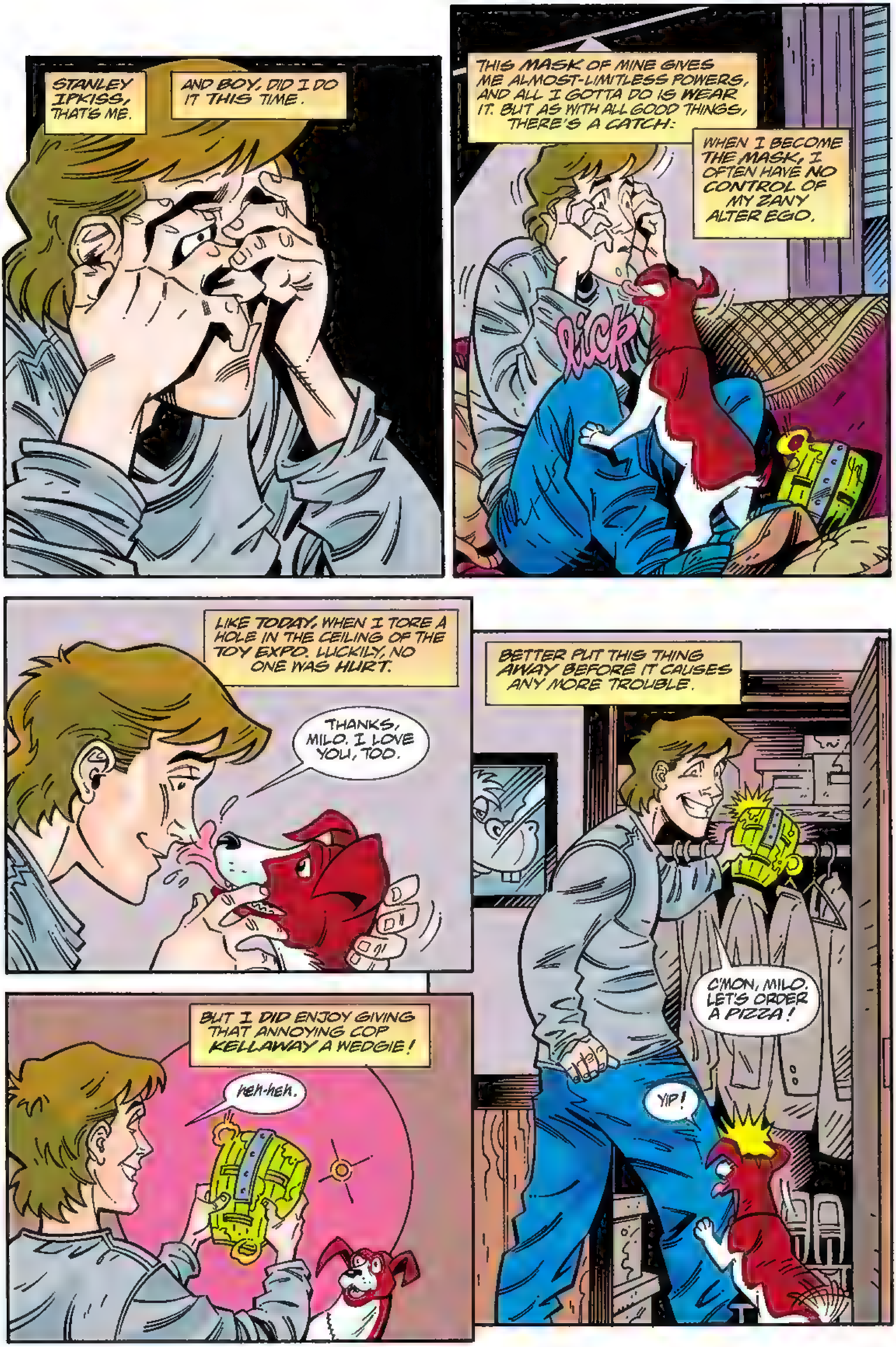

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!!
POP
POP
SKRUNCH
i wear the body
ELECTRONIC

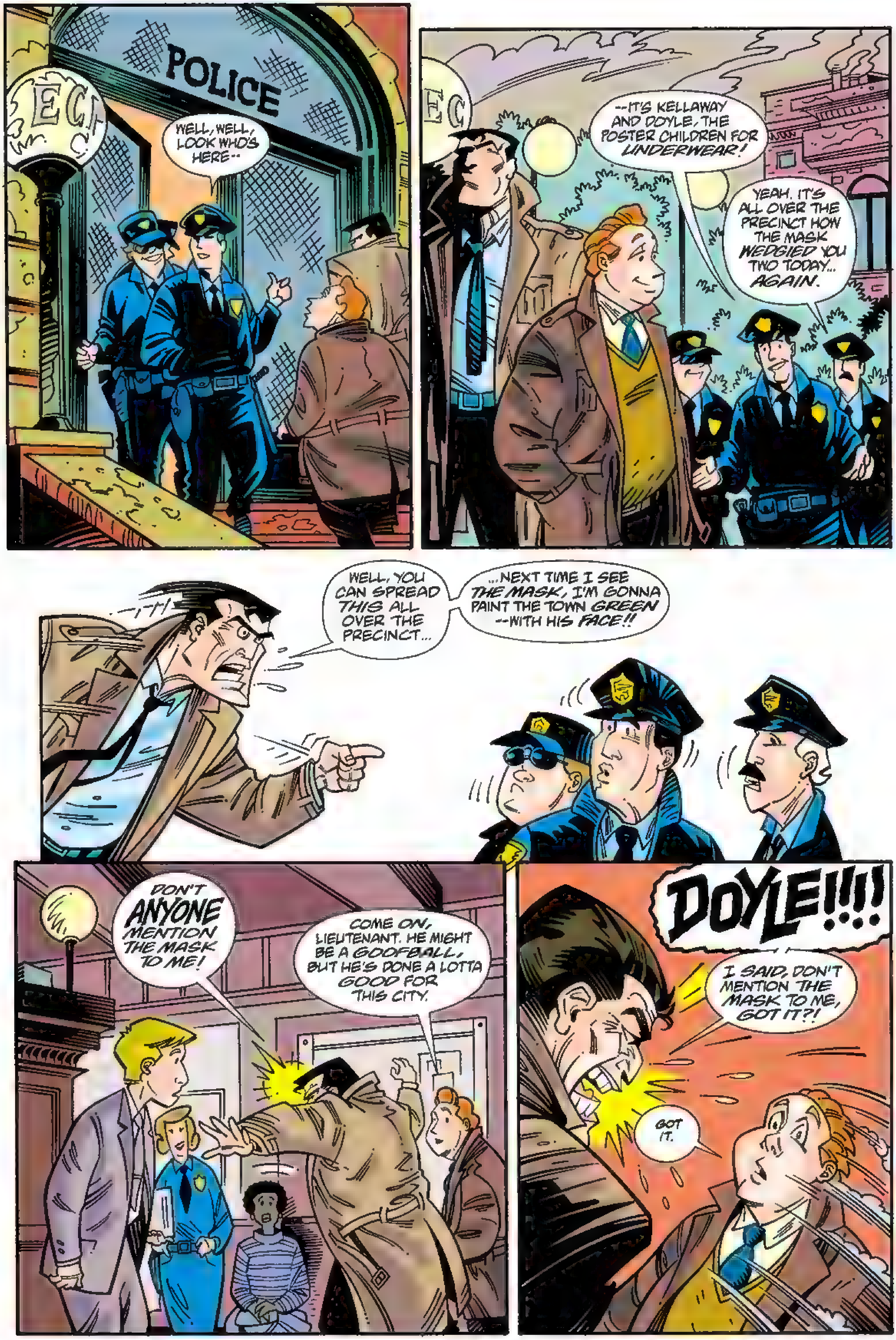

THE MASK IS EDGE CITY'S BIGGEST MENACE, AND THEY'RE MAKING TOYS OF HIM!
LOOK, LT. KELLAWAY, THIS ONE'S ARMS MOVE!
DOYLE!
PARDON ME, "BOYS"--
THE MASK ACTION FIGURES
NEW
--BUT WHY DON'T YOU MOVE ALONG BEFORE YOU BREAK SOMETHING ELSE.
WHY'D I LET YOU TALK ME INTO COMING HERE, DOYLE?
EDGE CITY TOY EXPO
MASK
GORZILLA
KILL-KORPS

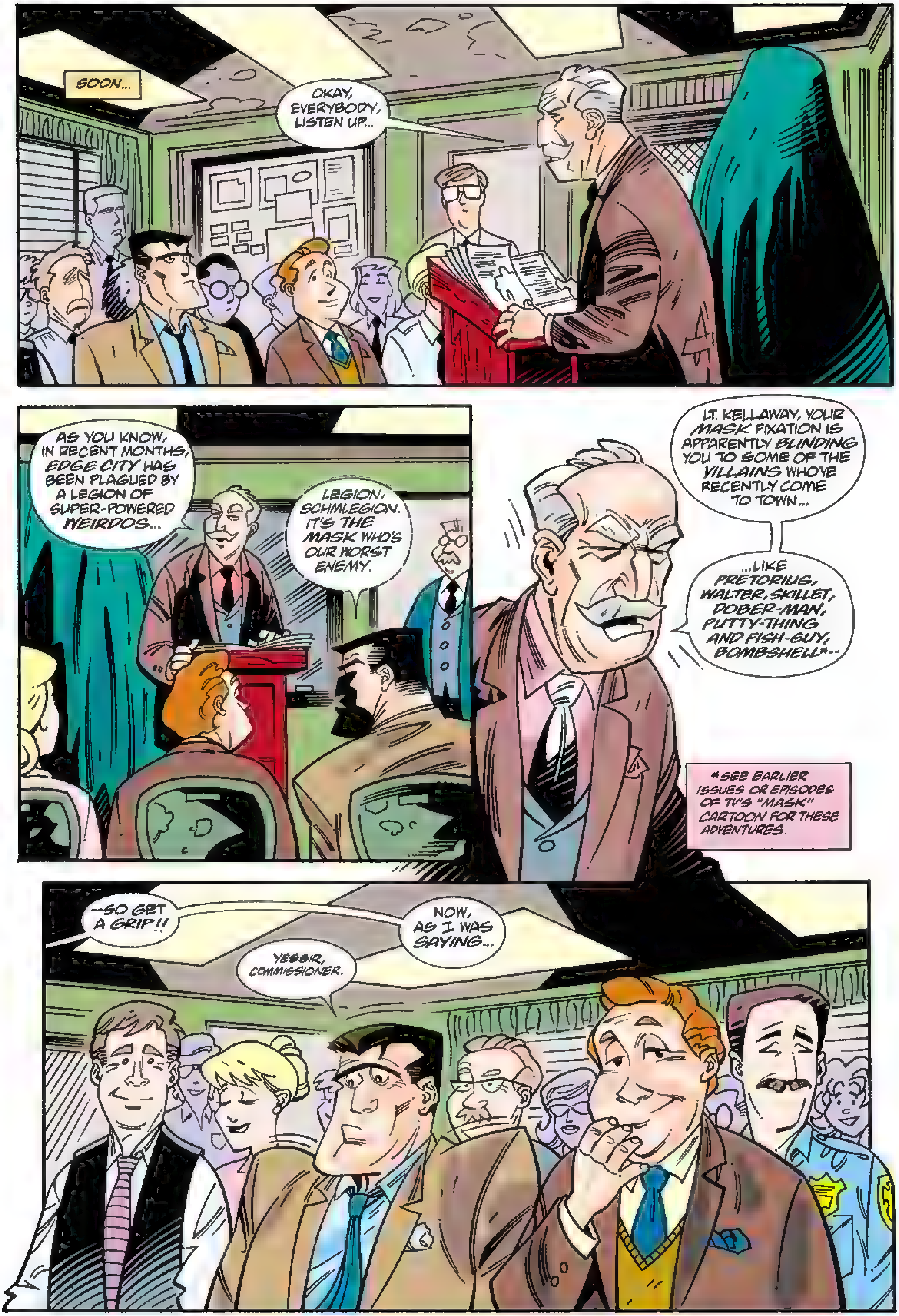

I MEAN, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GOOD, WHOLESOME TOYS I PLAYED WITH AS A KID? LIKE MR. TOMATO HEAD?
HE'S STILL AROUND, SEE...?
MR. DEATH KILL TOMATO HEAD
SPLATTER YOUR ENEMIES!
WHAT ABOUT COMMANDO BO?
THESE DAYS HE'S GOT "EYE-GOUGING GRIP"!
BAT-GUY TOYS
FROM KILLER TOYS
AH... MASTER-VIEWERS! AT LEAST THEY HAVEN'T CORRUPTED THOSE!
HEY--THIS IS A REEL FROM FRIDAY THE 13th, PART FOURTEEN!
THAT BLOODY HATCHET! IT'S IN 3-D!
IS NO TOY SACRED?
SO, YOU-A LOOKIN' FOR AN OLD-A CLASSIC, eh?
BIG BA

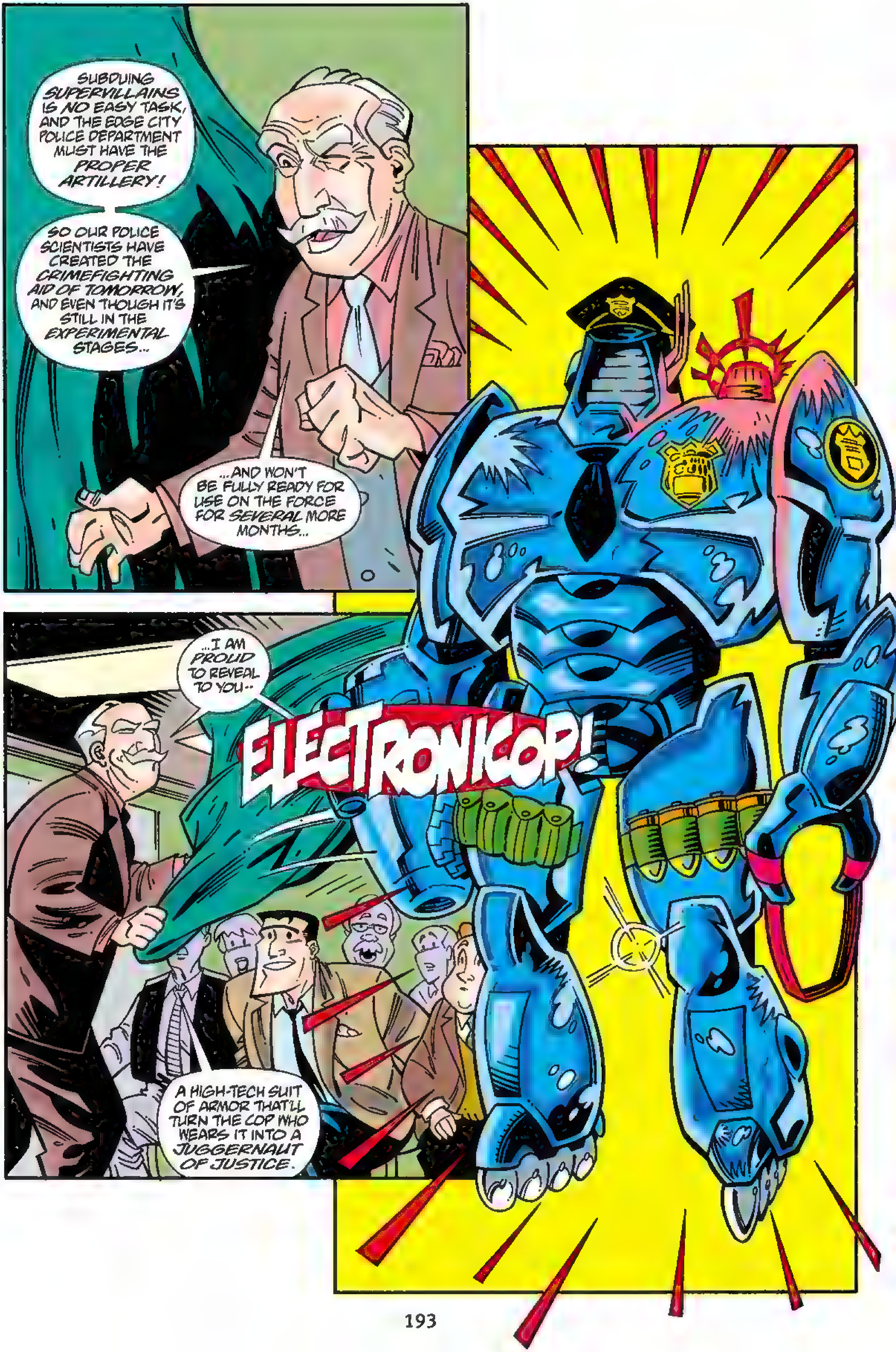

I'VE-A GOT-A TIME-HONORED GAME FOR YOU!
IT'S HIM!
THE MASK!
NEW DARK
IT'S CALLED... WEDGIE!!
HEY...!

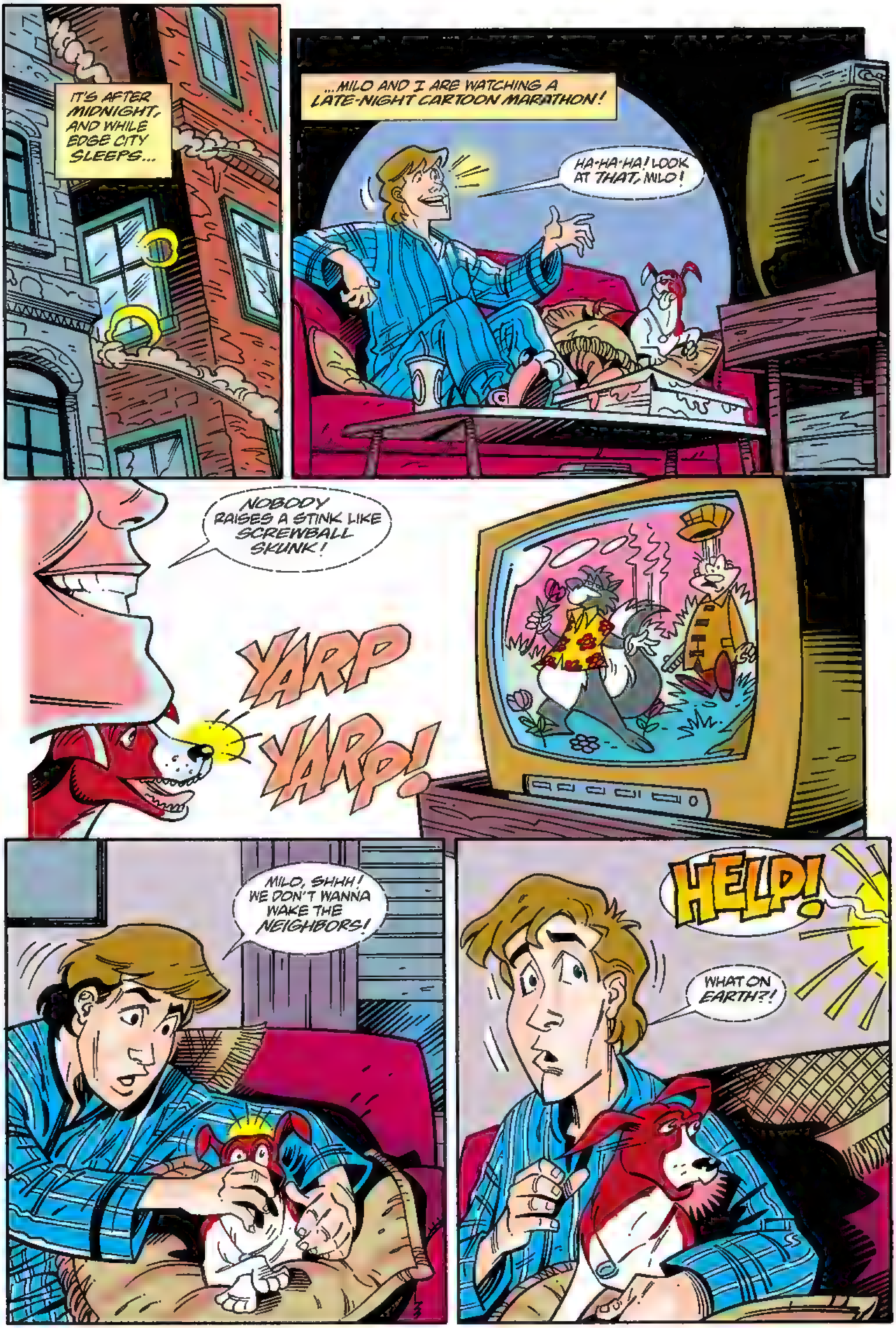

WHOOOA!
HELLLLP!
AND HERE'S A '90s SPIN ON THAT OLD FAVORITE--
--JUST TO TOP THINGS OFF!
OOF!
WUMPF!
SORRY I CAN'T TOY AROUND WITH YOU FELLAS ANY LONGER--
--BUT I'VE GOTTA HOP! ya-ha-ha!
SMASH
THAT'S THE LAST TIME YOU MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME, MASK!
THE LAST TIME!!!

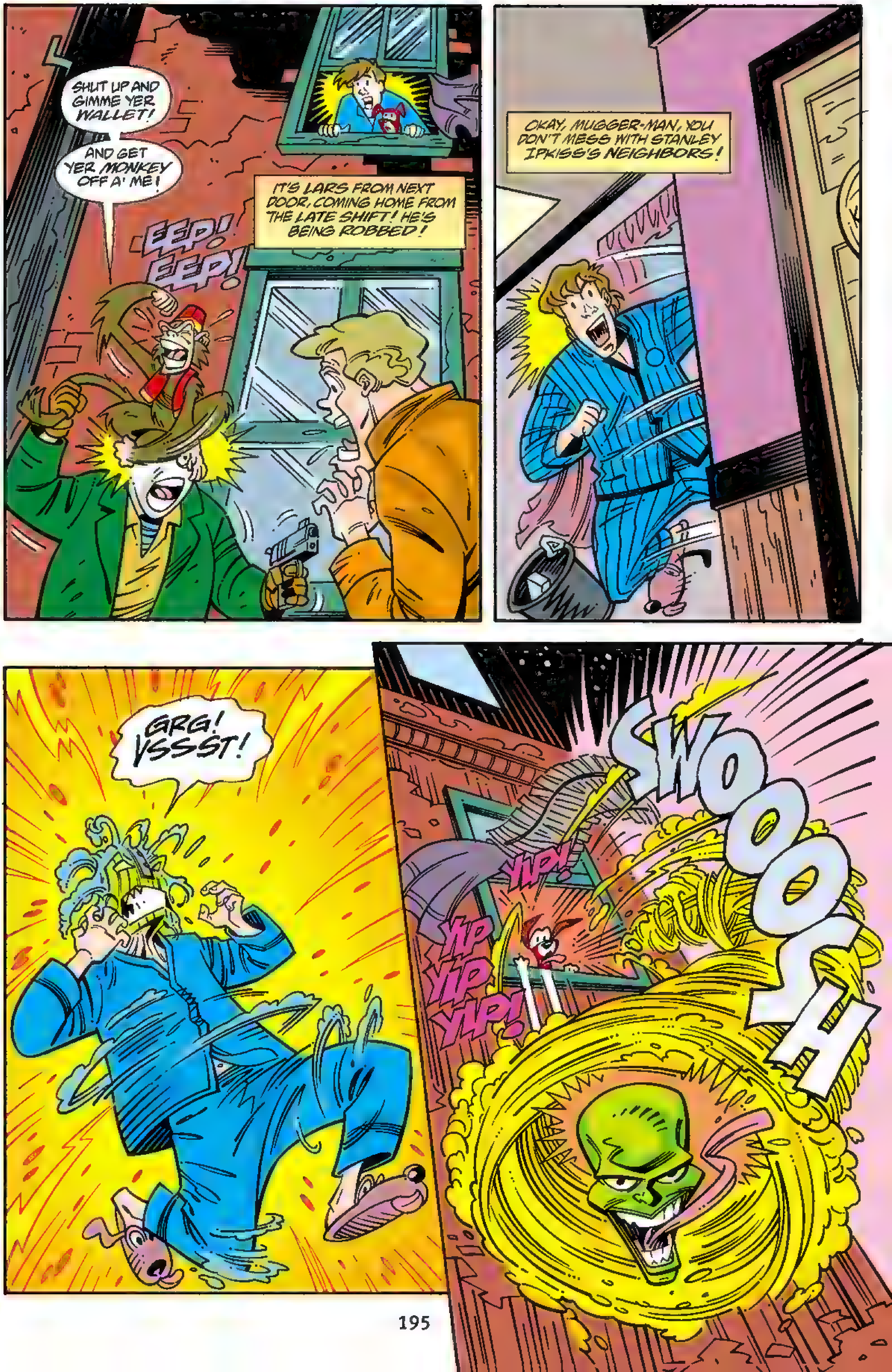

STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
AND BOY, DID I DO IT THIS TIME.
THIS MASK OF MINE GIVES ME ALMOST-LIMITLESS POWERS, AND ALL I GOTTA DO IS WEAR IT. BUT AS WITH ALL GOOD THINGS, THERE'S A CATCH:
WHEN I BECOME THE MASK, I OFTEN HAVE NO CONTROL OF MY ZANY ALTER EGO.
lick
LIKE TODAY, WHEN I TORE A HOLE IN THE CEILING OF THE TOY EXPO. LUCKILY, NO ONE WAS HURT.
THANKS, MILO. I LOVE YOU, TOO.
BUT I DID ENJOY GIVING THAT ANNOYING COP KELLAWAY A WEDGIE!
heh-heh.
BETTER PUT THIS THING AWAY BEFORE IT CAUSES ANY MORE TROUBLE.
C'MON, MILO. LET'S ORDER A PIZZA!
YIP!

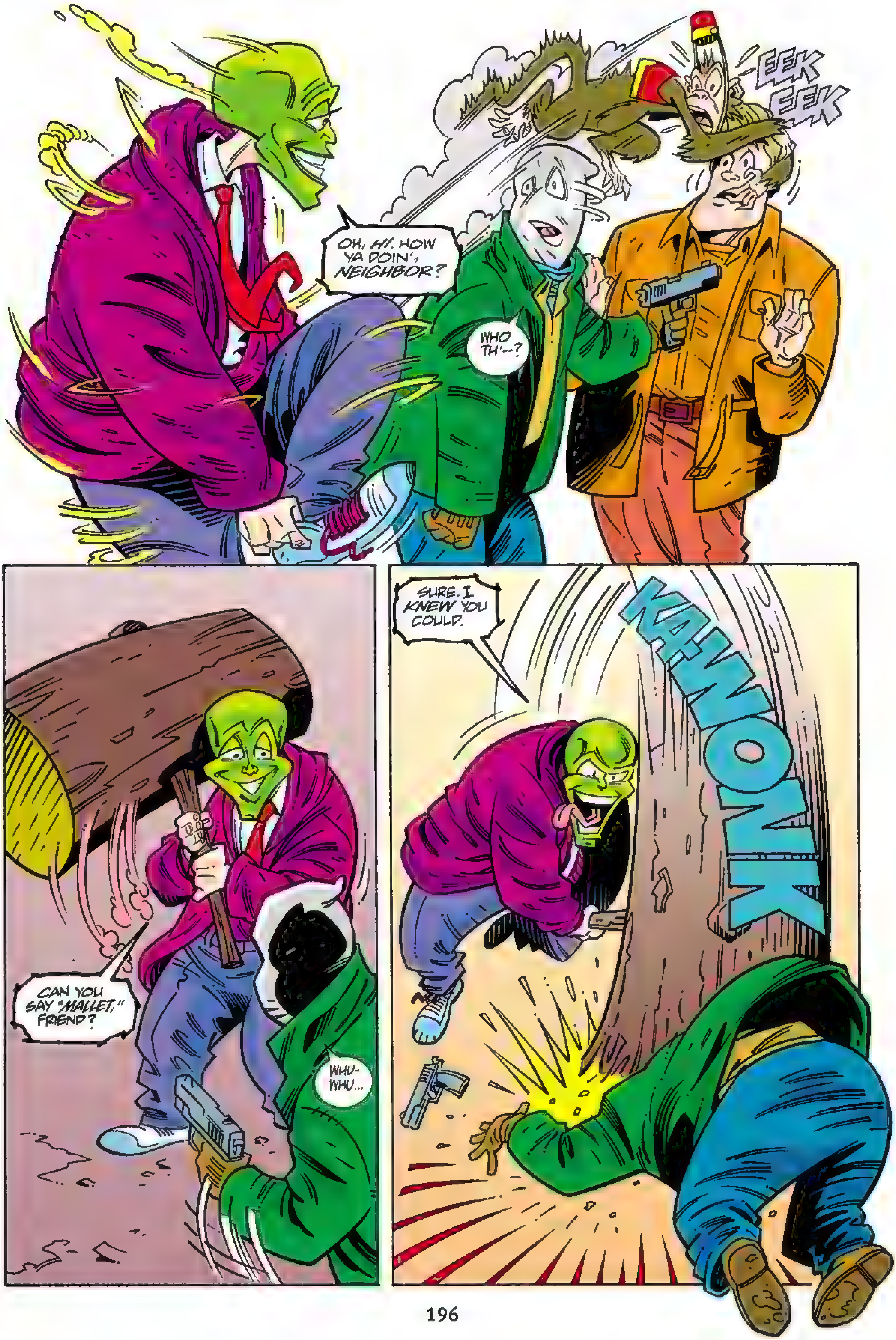

POLICE
WELL, WELL, LOOK WHO'S HERE--
--IT'S KELLAWAY AND DOYLE, THE POSTER CHILDREN FOR UNDERWEAR!
YEAH, IT'S ALL OVER THE PRECINCT HOW THE MASK WEDGIED YOU TWO TODAY... AGAIN.
WELL, YOU CAN SPREAD THIS ALL OVER THE PRECINCT...
...NEXT TIME I SEE THE MASK, I'M GONNA PAINT THE TOWN GREEN --WITH HIS FACE!!
DON'T ANYONE MENTION THE MASK TO ME!
COME ON, LIEUTENANT. HE MIGHT BE A GOOFBALL, BUT HE'S DONE A LOTTA GOOD FOR THIS CITY.
DOYLE!!!!
I SAID, DON'T MENTION THE MASK TO ME, GOT IT?!
GOT IT.

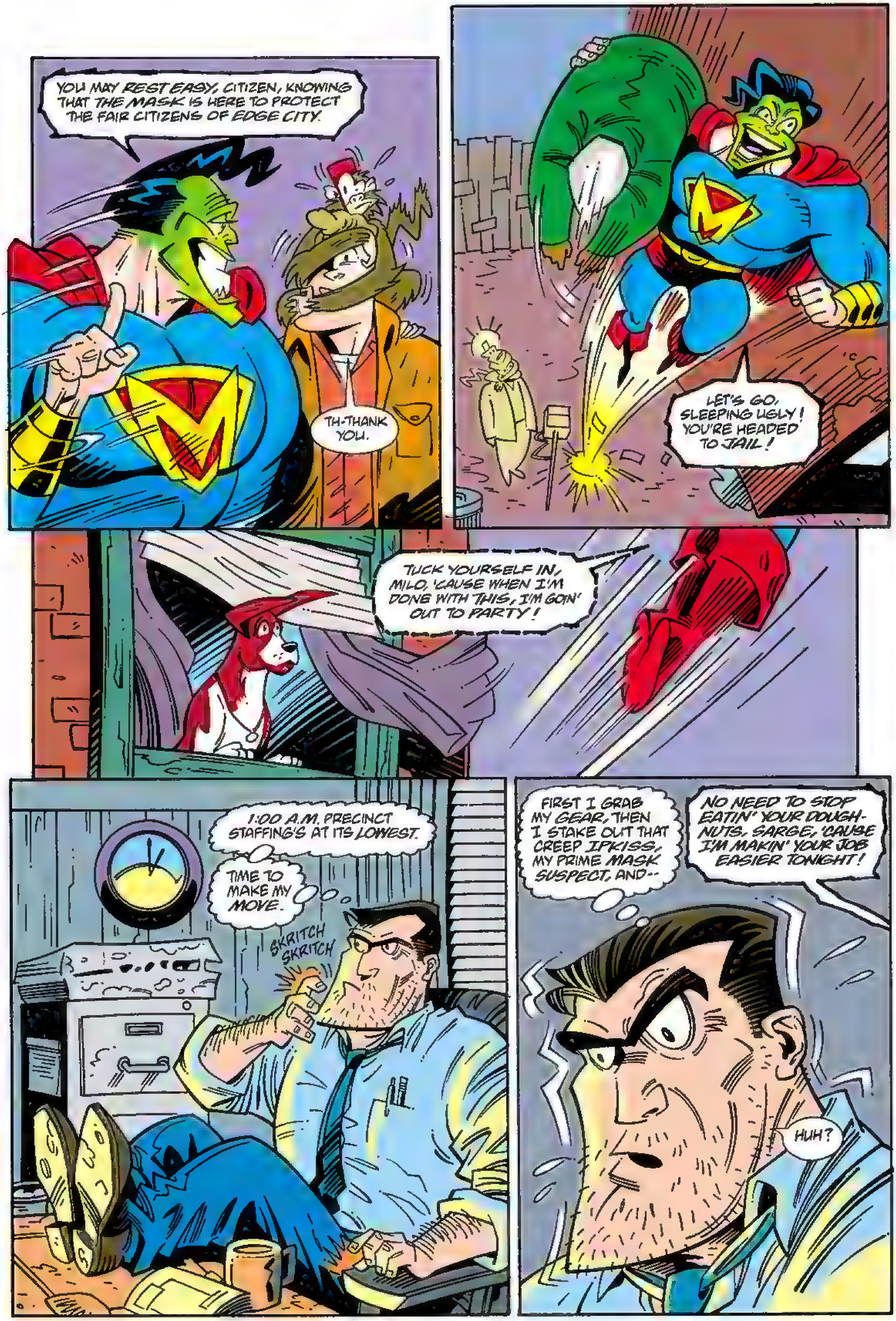

SOON...
OKAY, EVERYBODY, LISTEN UP...
AS YOU KNOW, IN RECENT MONTHS, EDGE CITY HAS BEEN PLAGUED BY A LEGION OF SUPER-POWERED WEIRDOS...
LEGION, SCHMLEGION. IT'S THE MASK WHO'S OUR WORST ENEMY.
LT. KELLAWAY, YOUR MASK FIXATION IS APPARENTLY BLINDING YOU TO SOME OF THE VILLAINS WHO'VE RECENTLY COME TO TOWN...
...LIKE PRETORIUS, WALTER, SKILLET, DOBER-MAN, PUTTY-THING AND FISH-GUY, BOMBSHELL*...
*SEE EARLIER ISSUES OR EPISODES OF TV'S "MASK" CARTOON FOR THESE ADVENTURES.
--SO GET A GRIP!!
NOW, AS I WAS SAYING...
YESSIR, COMMISSIONER.

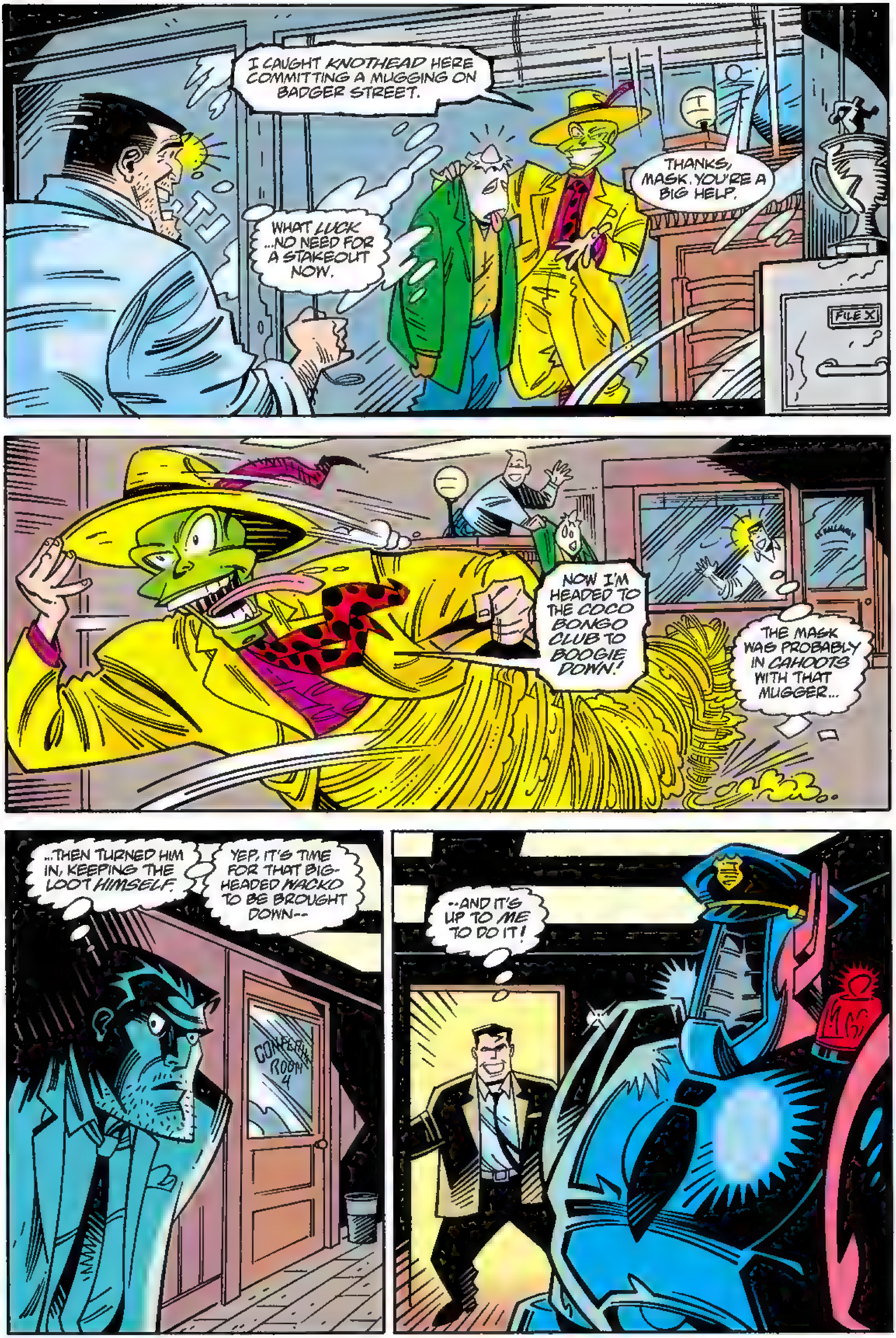

SUBDUING SUPERVILLAINS IS NO EASY TASK, AND THE EDGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT MUST HAVE THE PROPER ARTILLERY!
SO OUR POLICE SCIENTISTS HAVE CREATED THE CRIMEFIGHTING AID OF TOMORROW, AND EVEN THOUGH IT'S STILL IN THE EXPERIMENTAL STAGES...
...AND WON'T BE FULLY READY FOR USE ON THE FORCE FOR SEVERAL MORE MONTHS...
...I AM PROUD TO REVEAL TO YOU--
ELECTRONICOP!
A HIGH-TECH SUIT OF ARMOR THAT'LL TURN THE COP WHO WEARS IT INTO A JUGGERNAUT OF JUSTICE.

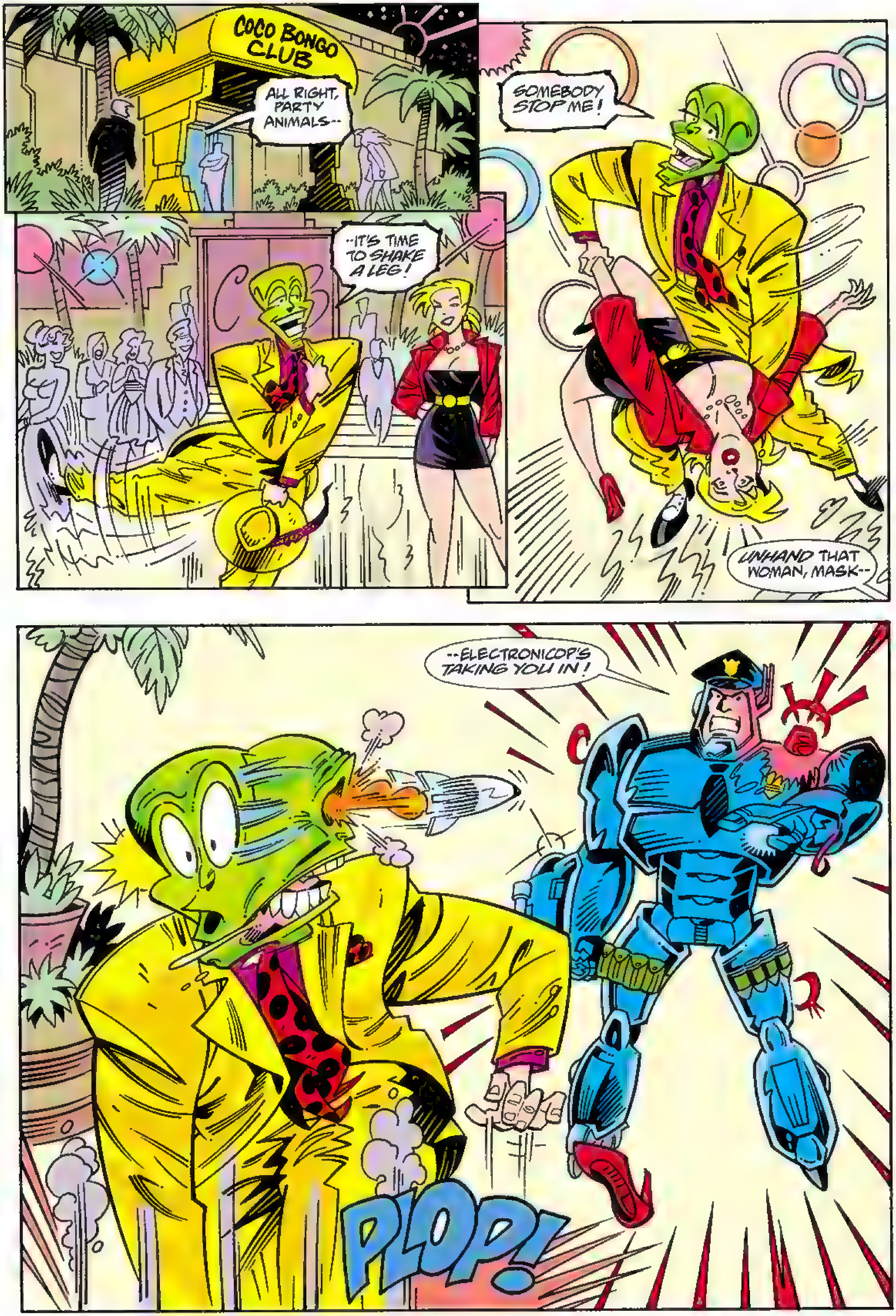

IT'S AFTER MIDNIGHT, AND WHILE EDGE CITY SLEEPS...
...MILO AND I ARE WATCHING A LATE-NIGHT CARTOON MARATHON!
HA-HA-HA! LOOK AT THAT, MILO!
NOBODY RAISES A STINK LIKE SCREWBALL SKUNK!
YARP YARP!
MILO, SHHH! WE DON'T WANNA WAKE THE NEIGHBORS!
HELP!
WHAT ON EARTH?!

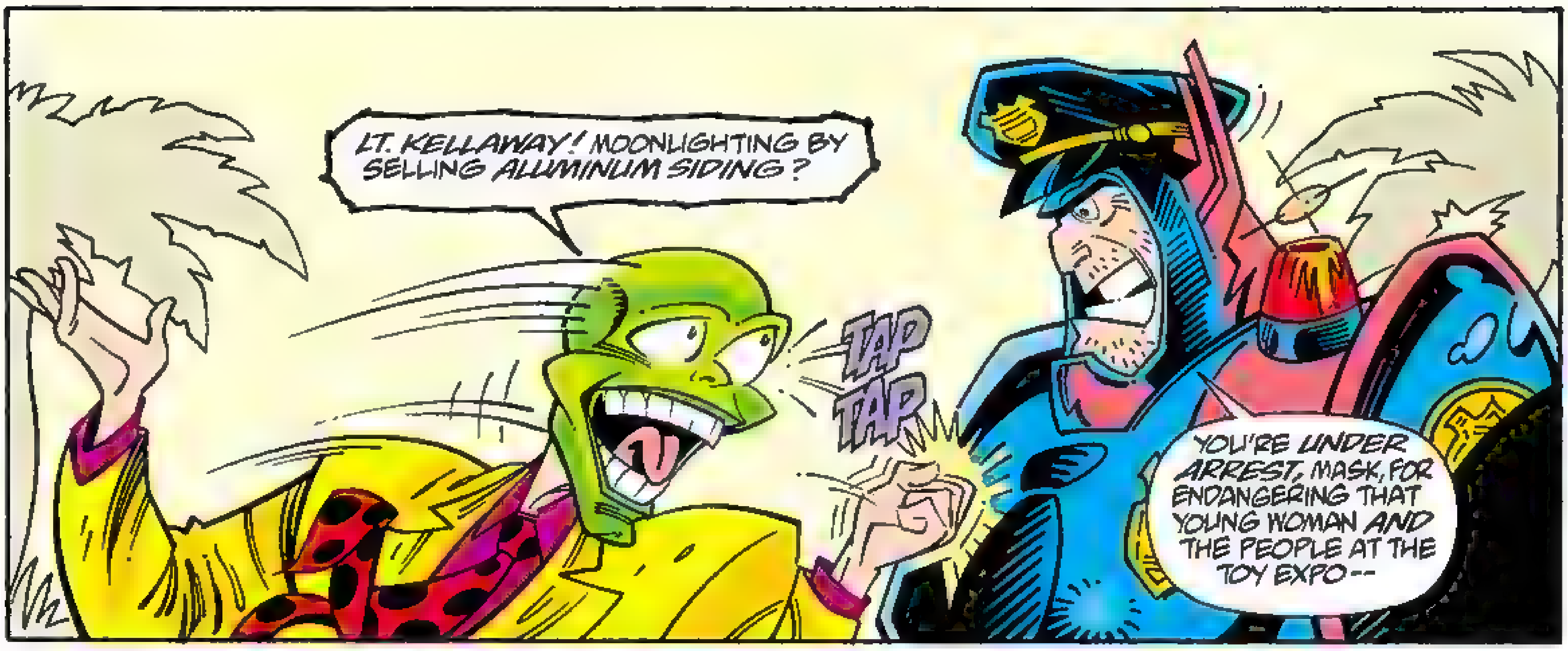

SHUT UP AND GIMME YER WALLET!
AND GET YER MONKEY OFF A' ME!
EEP! EEP!
IT'S LARS FROM NEXT DOOR, COMING HOME FROM THE LATE SHIFT! HE'S BEING ROBBED!
OKAY, MUGGER-MAN, YOU DON'T MESS WITH STANLEY IPKISS'S NEIGHBORS!
GRG! VSSST!
SWOOOSH
YIP!
YIP YIP YIP!

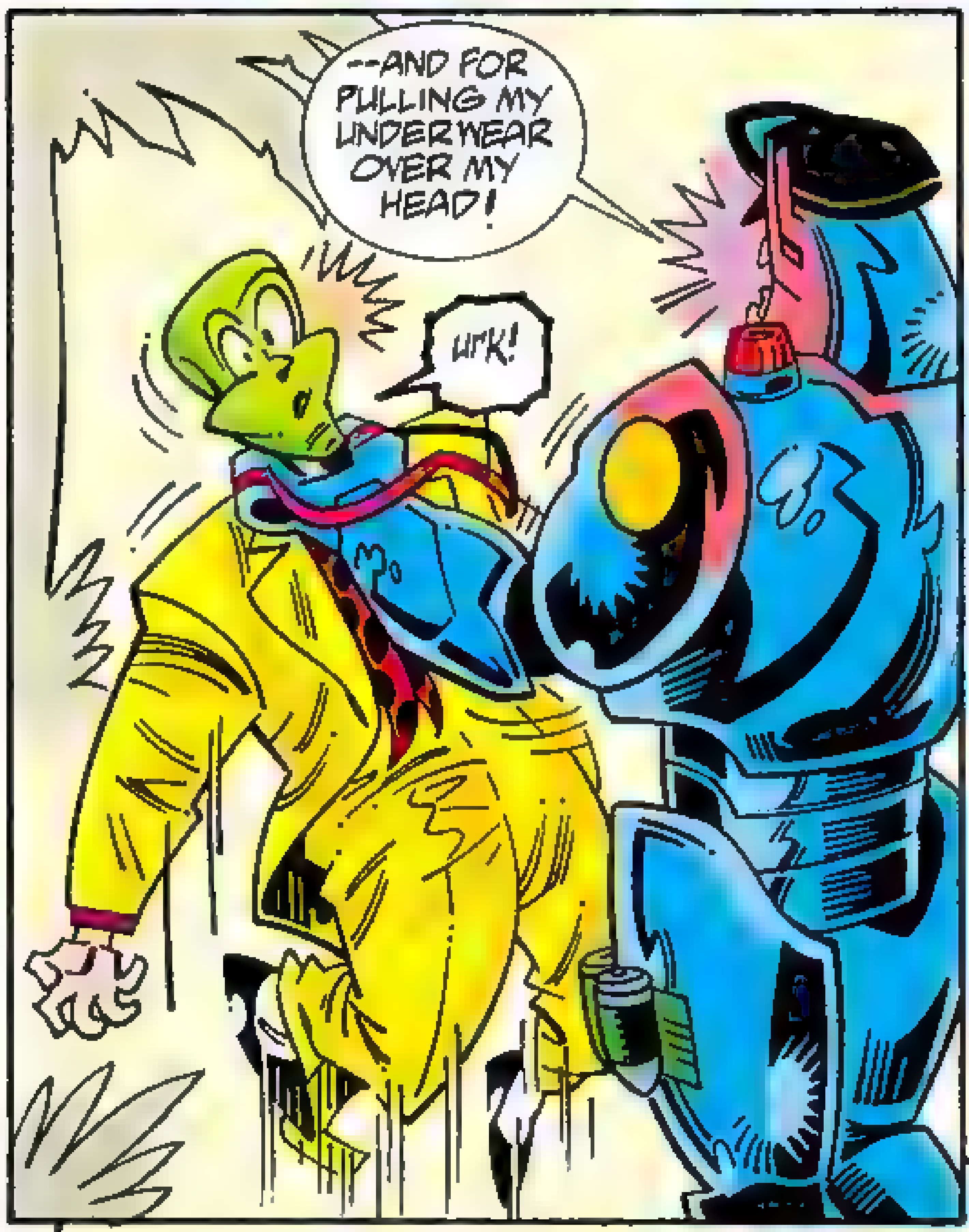

OH, HI. HOW YA DOIN', NEIGHBOR?
EEK EEK
WHO TH'--?
CAN YOU SAY "MALLET," FRIEND?
WHU-WHU...
SURE. I KNEW YOU COULD.
KAWONK

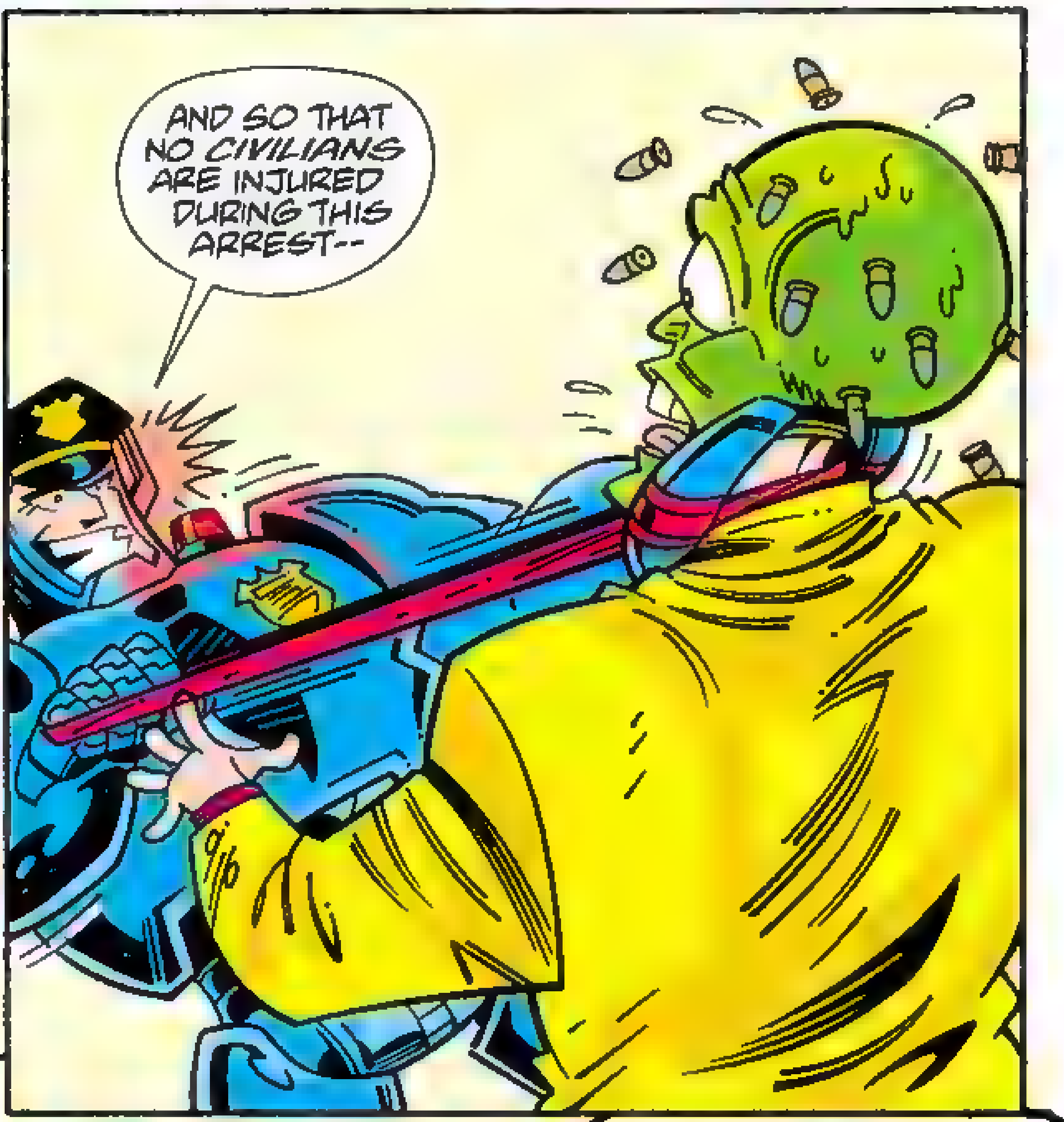

YOU MAY REST EASY, CITIZEN, KNOWING THAT THE MASK IS HERE TO PROTECT THE FAIR CITIZENS OF EDGE CITY.
TH-THANK YOU.
LET'S GO, SLEEPING UGLY! YOU'RE HEADED TO JAIL!
TUCK YOURSELF IN, MILO, 'CAUSE WHEN I'M DONE WITH THIS, I'M GOIN' OUT TO PARTY!
1:00 A.M. PRECINCT STAFFING'S AT ITS LOWEST.
TIME TO MAKE MY MOVE.
SKRITCH SKRITCH
FIRST I GRAB MY GEAR, THEN I STAKE OUT THAT CREEP IPKISS, MY PRIME MASK SUSPECT, AND--
NO NEED TO STOP EATIN' YOUR DOUGHNUTS, SARGE, 'CAUSE I'M MAKIN' YOUR JOB EASIER TONIGHT!
HUH?

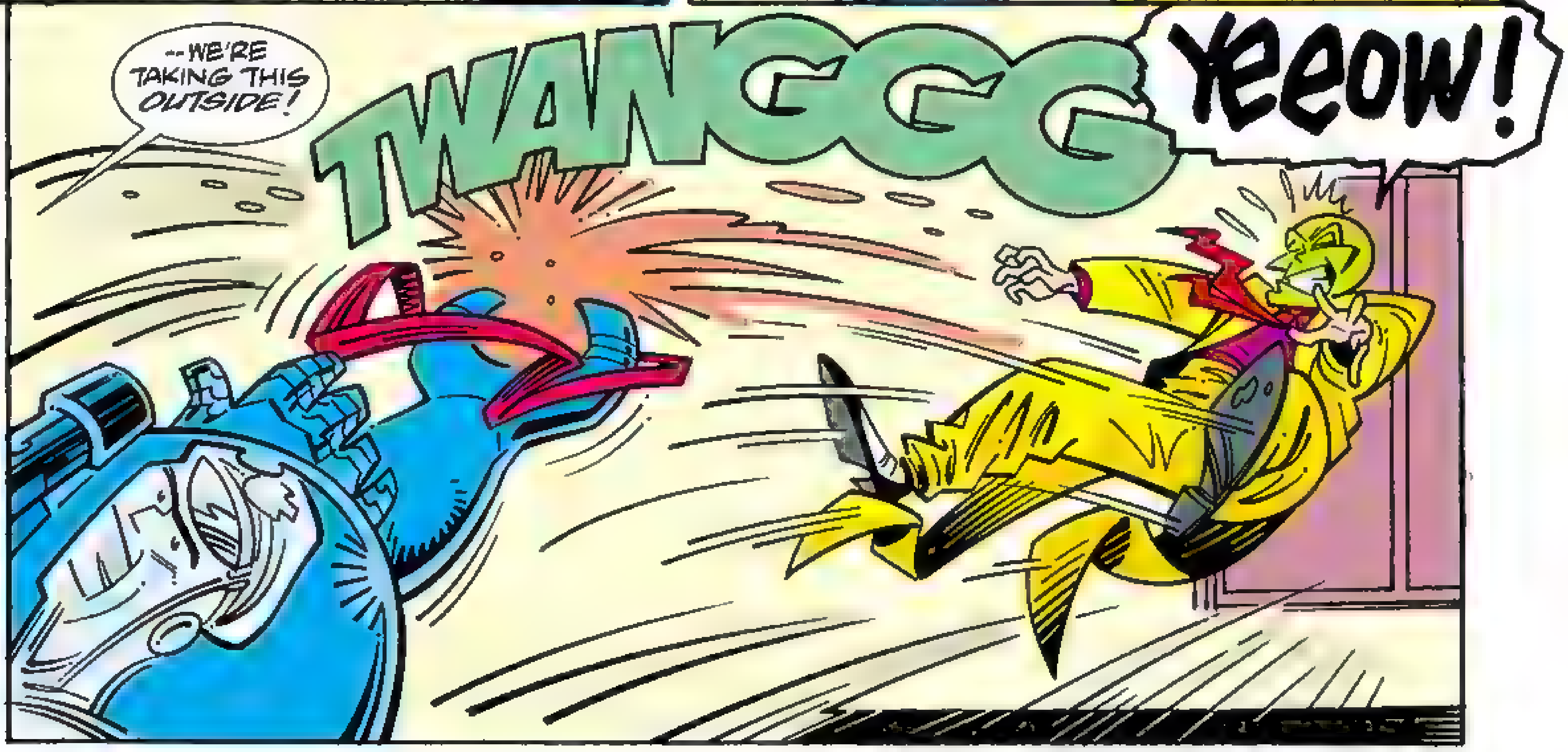

I CAUGHT KNOTHEAD HERE COMMITTING A MUGGING ON BADGER STREET.
WHAT LUCK ...NO NEED FOR A STAKEOUT NOW.
THANKS, MASK. YOU'RE A BIG HELP.
FILE X
NOW I'M HEADED TO THE COCO BONGO CLUB TO BOOGIE DOWN!
THE MASK WAS PROBABLY IN CAHOOTS WITH THAT MUGGER...
...THEN TURNED HIM IN, KEEPING THE LOOT HIMSELF.
YEP, IT'S TIME FOR THAT BIG-HEADED WACKO TO BE BROUGHT DOWN--
CONFERENCE ROOM 4
--AND IT'S UP TO ME TO DO IT!

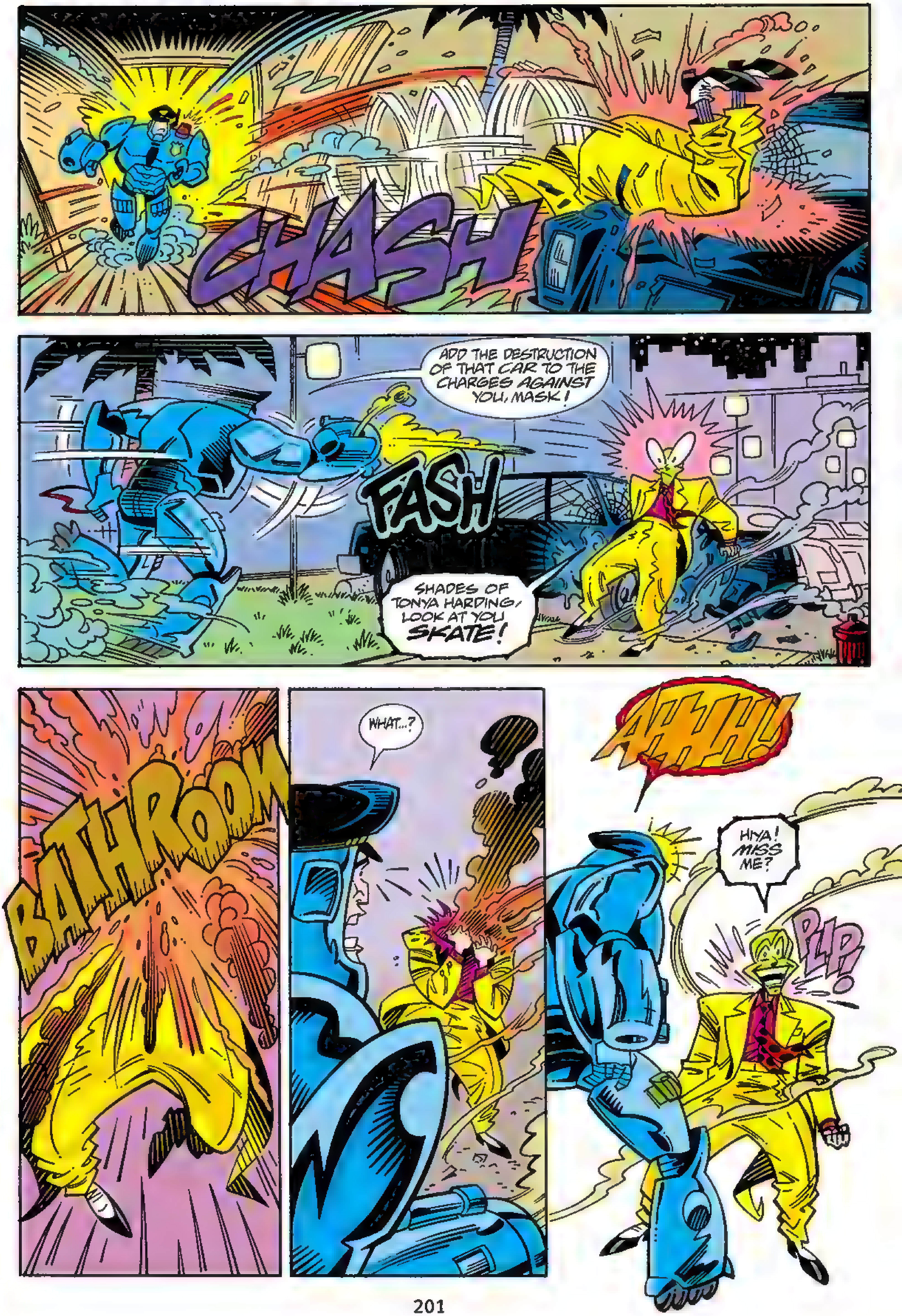

COCO BONGO CLUB
ALL RIGHT, PARTY ANIMALS--
--IT'S TIME TO SHAKE A LEG!
SOMEBODY STOP ME!
UNHAND THAT WOMAN, MASK--
--ELECTRONICOP'S TAKING YOU IN!
PLOP!

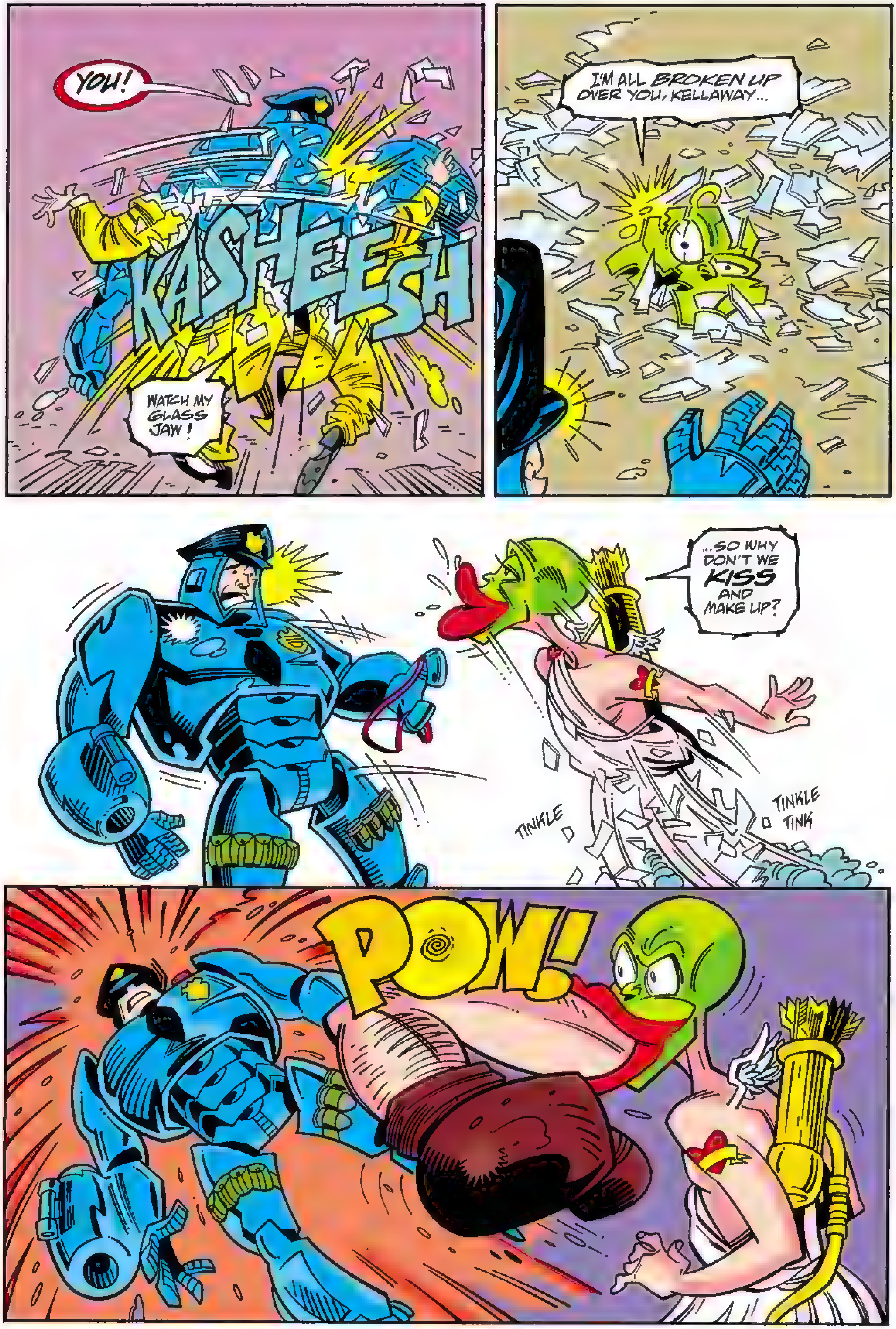

LT. KELLAWAY! MOONLIGHTING BY SELLING ALUMINUM SIDING?
TAP TAP
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST, MASK, FOR ENDANGERING THAT YOUNG WOMAN AND THE PEOPLE AT THE TOY EXPO--

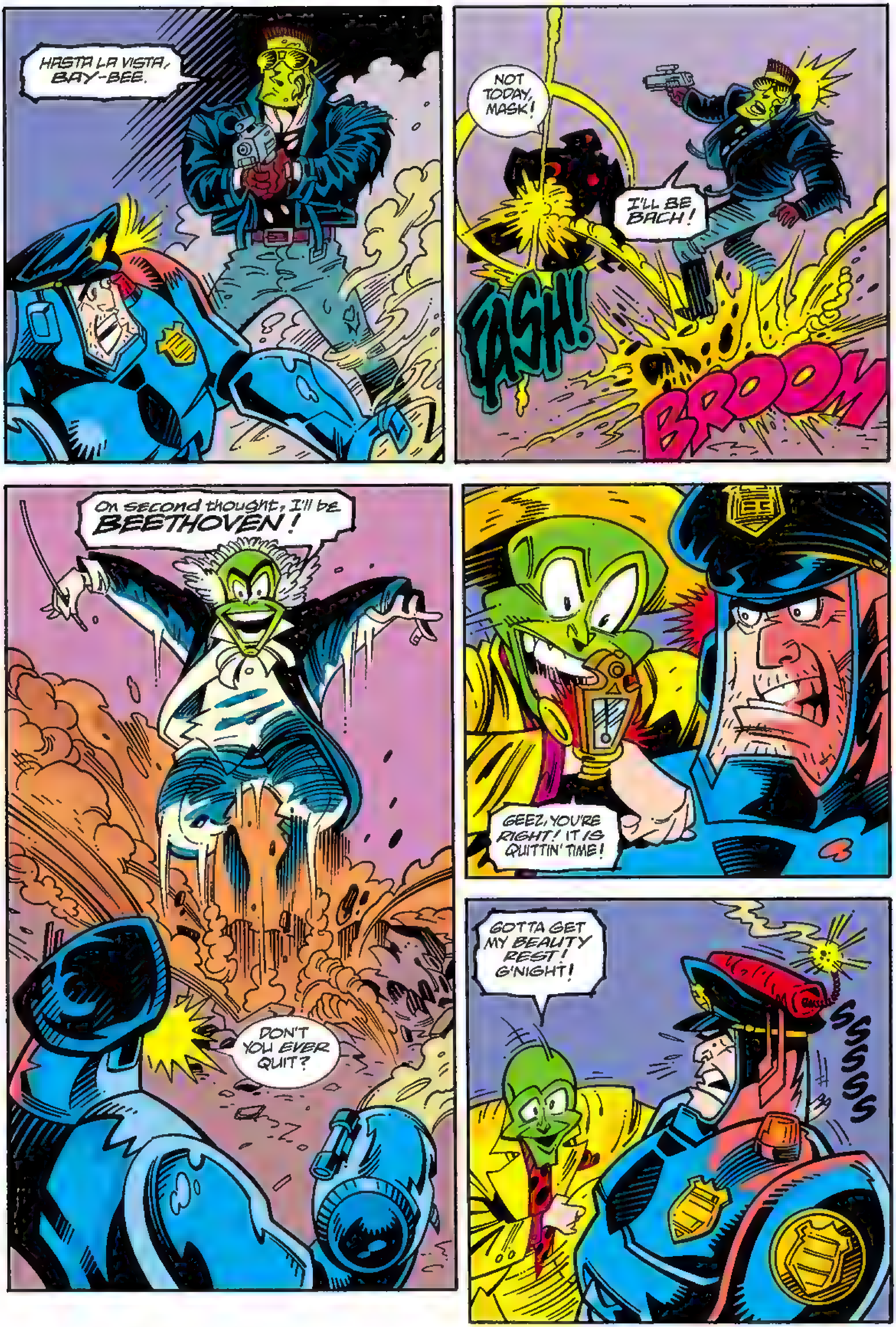

--AND FOR PULLING MY UNDERWEAR OVER MY HEAD!
urk!

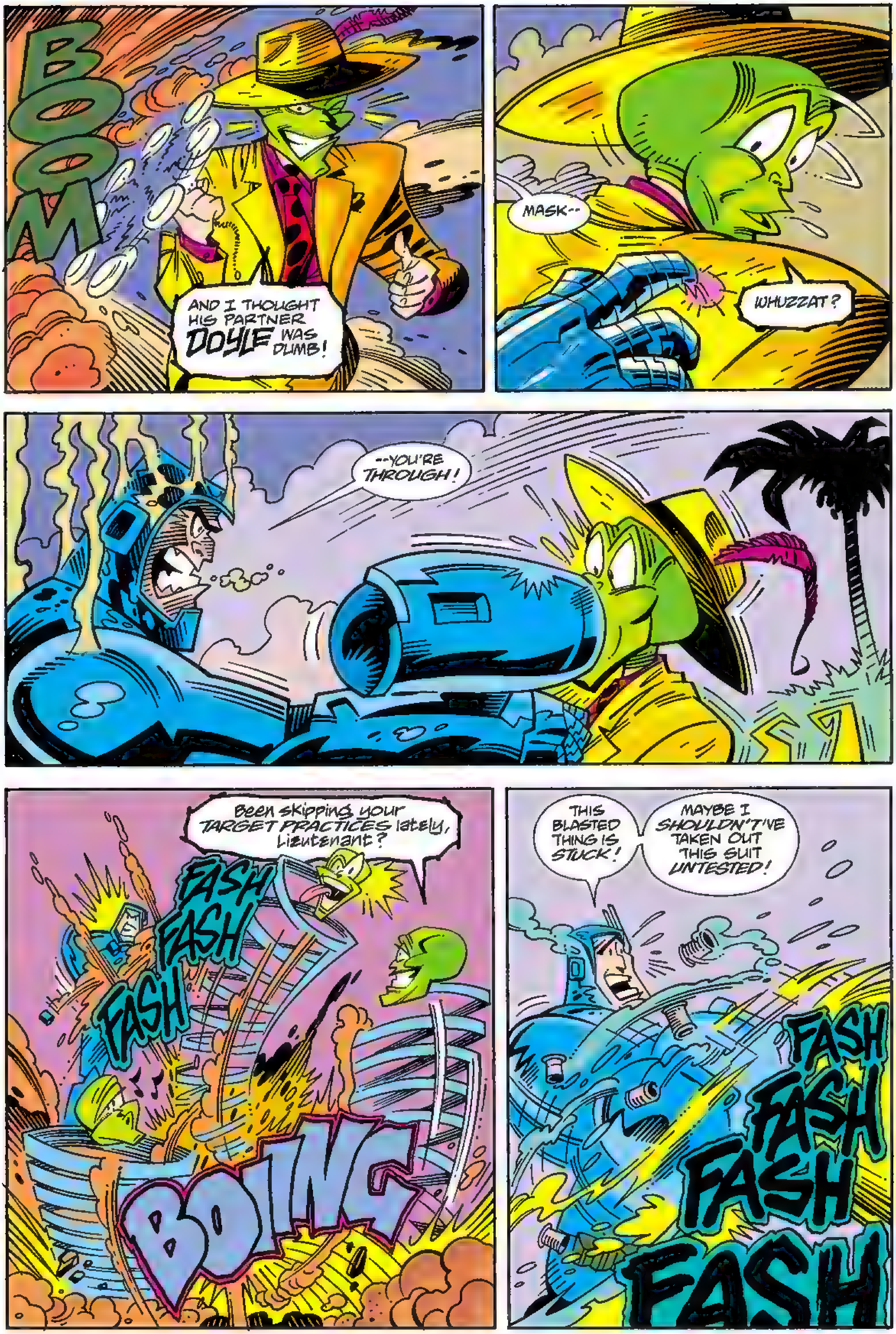

AND SO THAT NO CIVILIANS ARE INJURED DURING THIS ARREST--

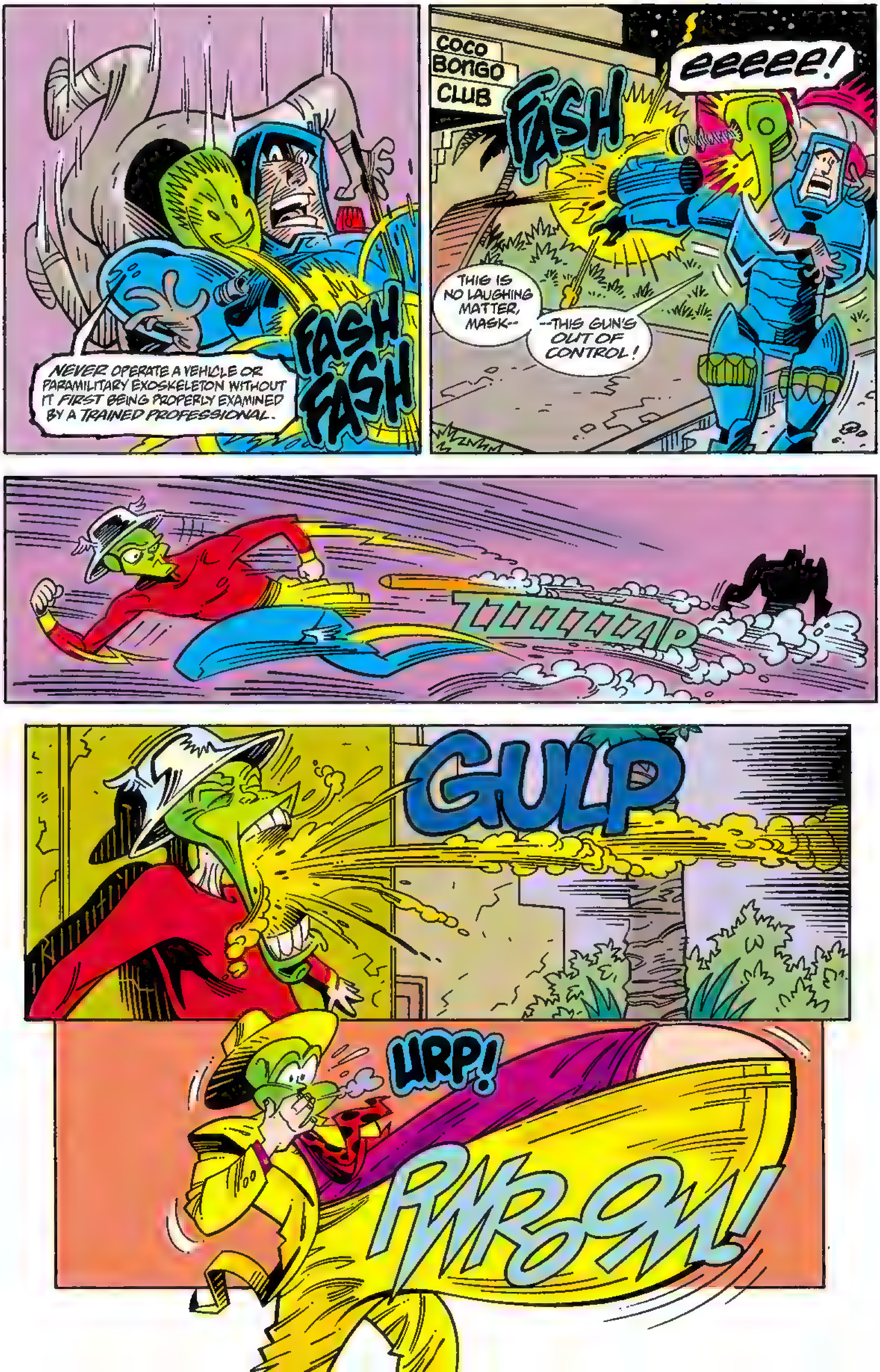

--WE'RE TAKING THIS OUTSIDE!
TWANGGG
YEEOW!

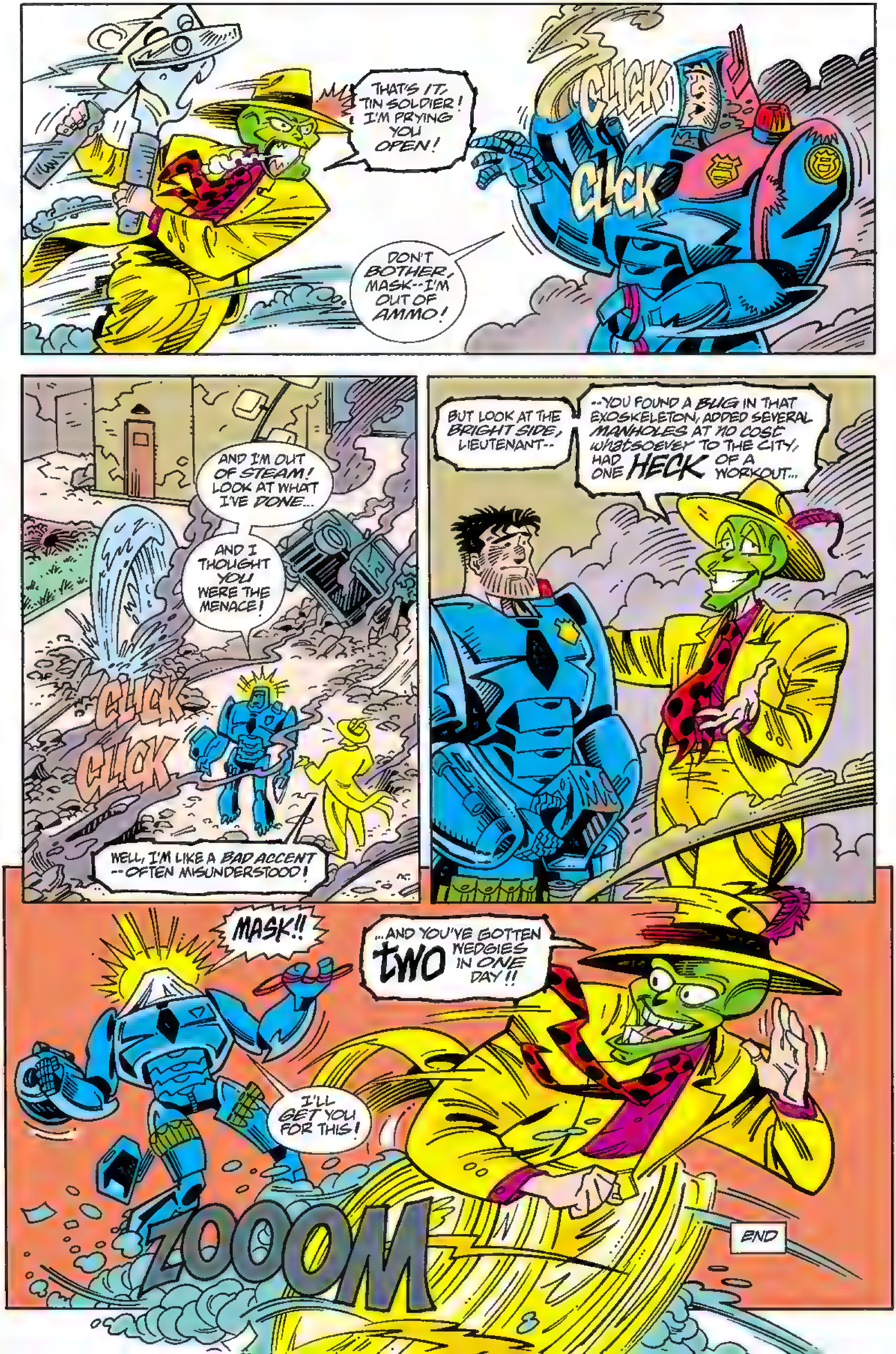

CHASH
ADD THE DESTRUCTION OF THAT CAR TO THE CHARGES AGAINST YOU, MASK!
FASH
SHADES OF TONYA HARDING, LOOK AT YOU SKATE!
BATHROOM
WHAT...?
AHHH!
HIYA! MISS ME?
PLIP!


YOU!
KASHEESH
WATCH MY GLASS JAW!
I'M ALL BROKEN UP OVER YOU, KELLAWAY...
...SO WHY DON'T WE KISS AND MAKE UP?
TINKLE
TINKLE TINK
POW!

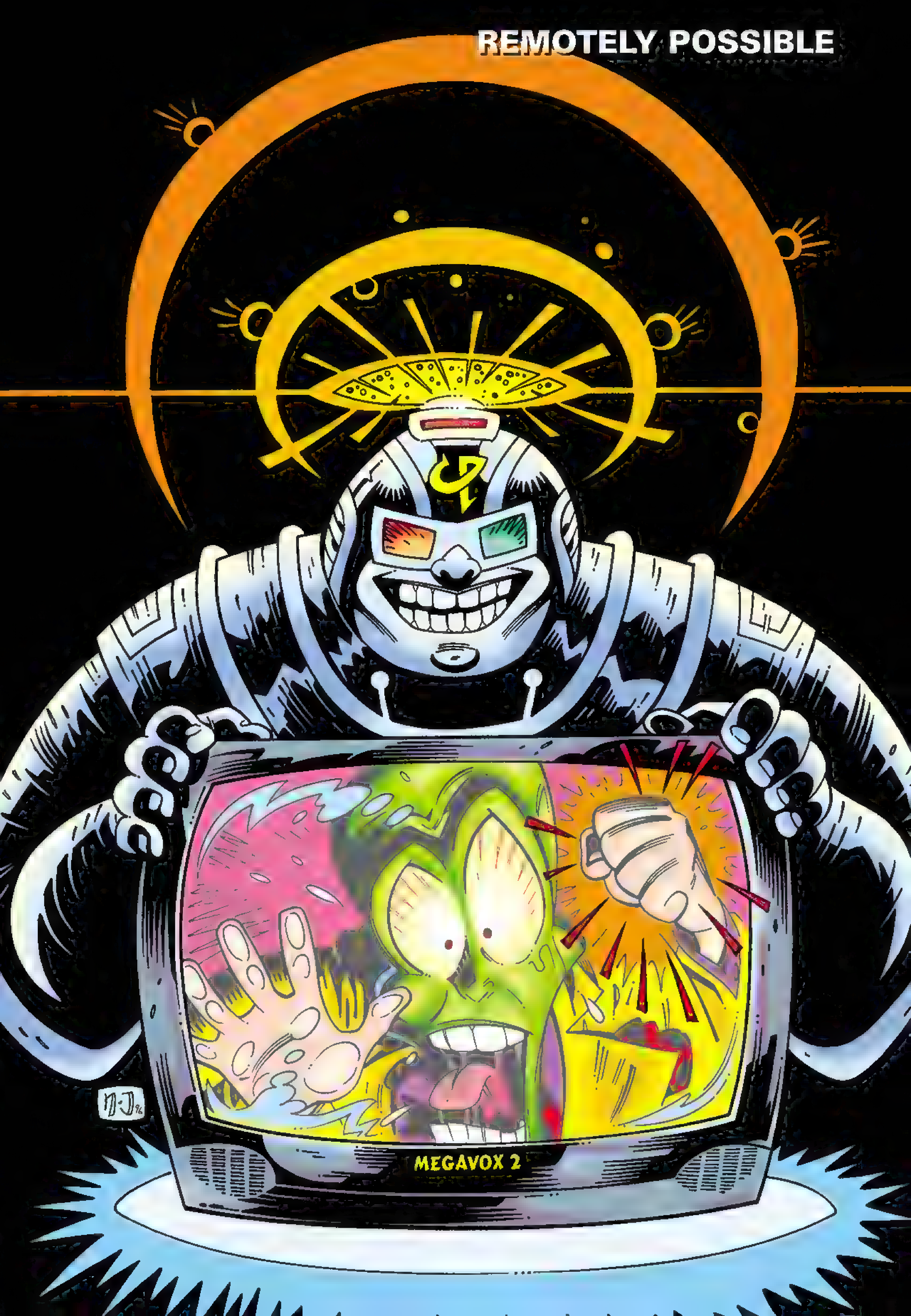

HASTA LA VISTA, BAY-BEE.
NOT TODAY, MASK!
I'LL BE BACH!
FASH!
BROOM
On second thought, I'll be BEETHOVEN!
DON'T YOU EVER QUIT?
GEEZ, YOU'RE RIGHT! IT IS QUITTIN' TIME!
GOTTA GET MY BEAUTY REST! G'NIGHT!
SSSSS


BOOM
AND I THOUGHT HIS PARTNER DOYLE WAS DUMB!
MASK--
WHUZZAT?
--YOU'RE THROUGH!
Been skipping your TARGET PRACTICES lately, Lieutenant?
FASH
FASH
FASH
BOING
THIS BLASTED THING IS STUCK!
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T'VE TAKEN OUT THIS SUIT UNTESTED!
FASH
FASH
FASH
FASH


NEVER OPERATE A VEHICLE OR PARAMILITARY EXOSKELETON WITHOUT IT FIRST BEING PROPERLY EXAMINED BY A TRAINED PROFESSIONAL.
FASH
FASH
COCO BONGO CLUB
FASH
eeeee!
THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER, MASK--
--THIS GUN'S OUT OF CONTROL!
ZZZZZZAP
GULP
URP!
FWROOM!


THAT'S IT, TIN SOLDIER! I'M PRYING YOU OPEN!
CLICK
CLICK
DON'T BOTHER, MASK--I'M OUT OF AMMO!
AND I'M OUT OF STEAM! LOOK AT WHAT I'VE DONE...
AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE MENACE!
CLICK
CLICK
WELL, I'M LIKE A BAD ACCENT --OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD!
BUT LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE, LIEUTENANT--
--YOU FOUND A BUG IN THAT EXOSKELETON, ADDED SEVERAL MANHOLES AT NO COST WHATSOEVER TO THE CITY, HAD ONE HECK OF A WORKOUT...
MASK!!
...AND YOU'VE GOTTEN TWO WEDGIES IN ONE DAY!!
I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!
ZOOOM
END

REMOTELY POSSIBLE



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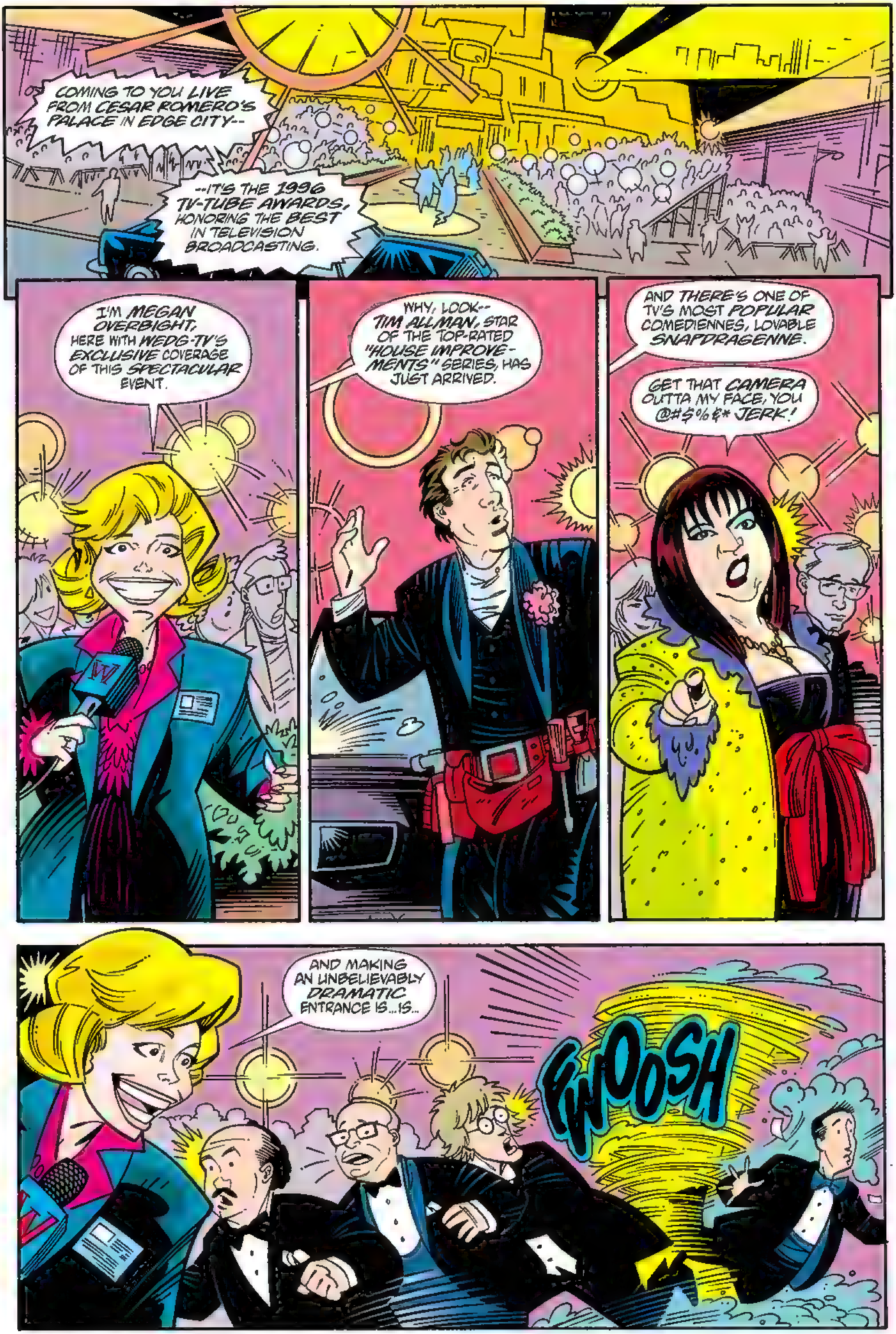
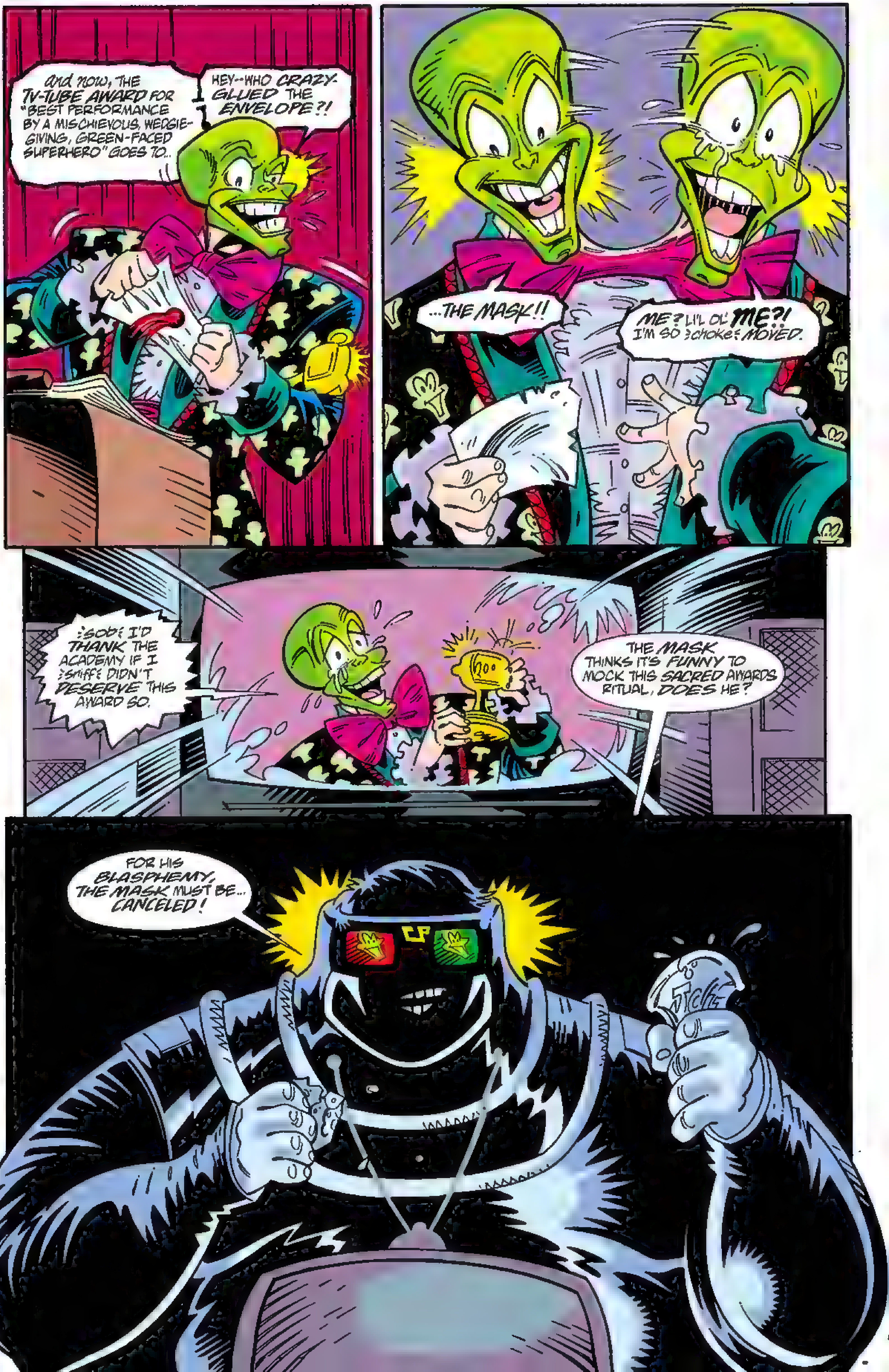
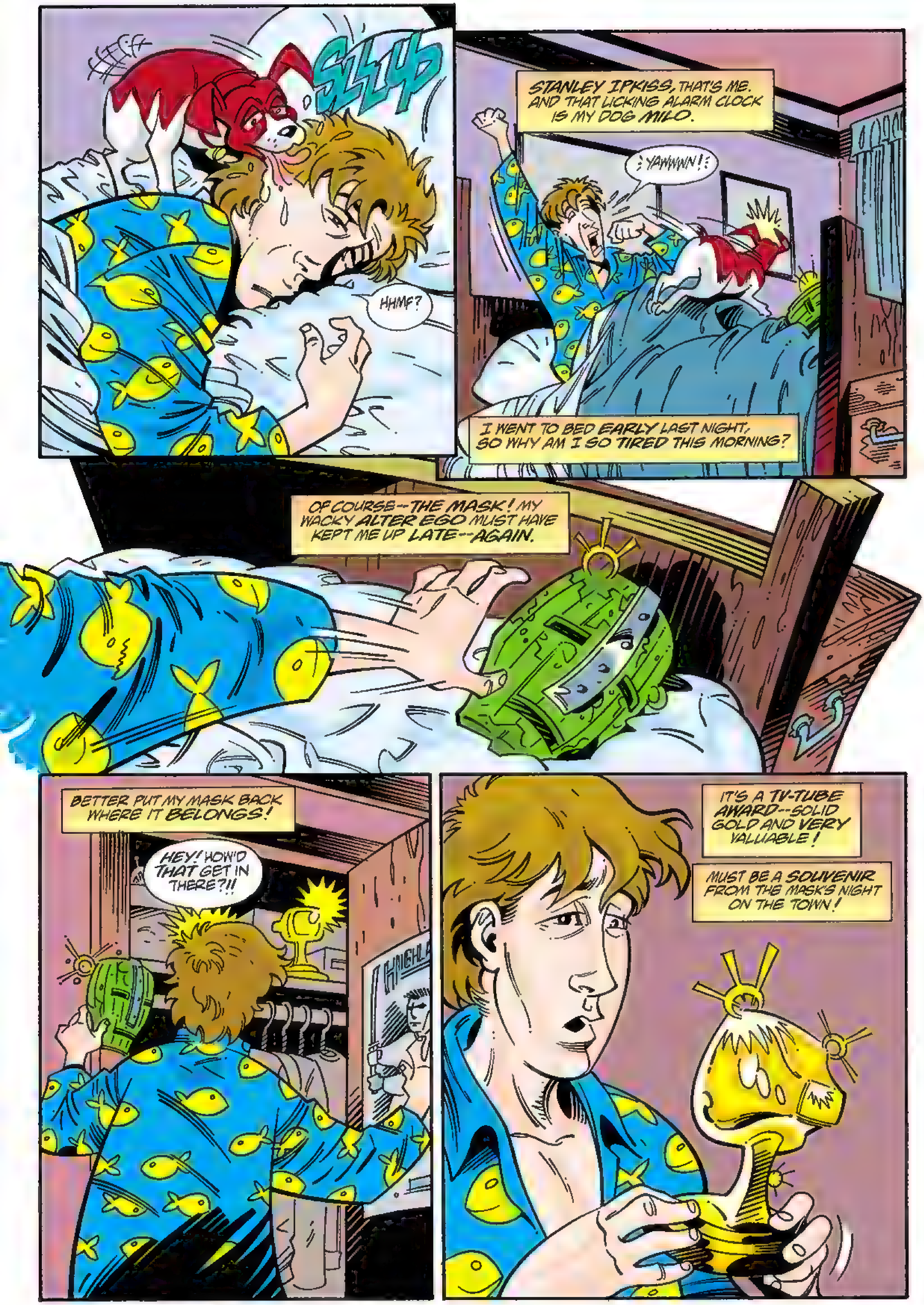
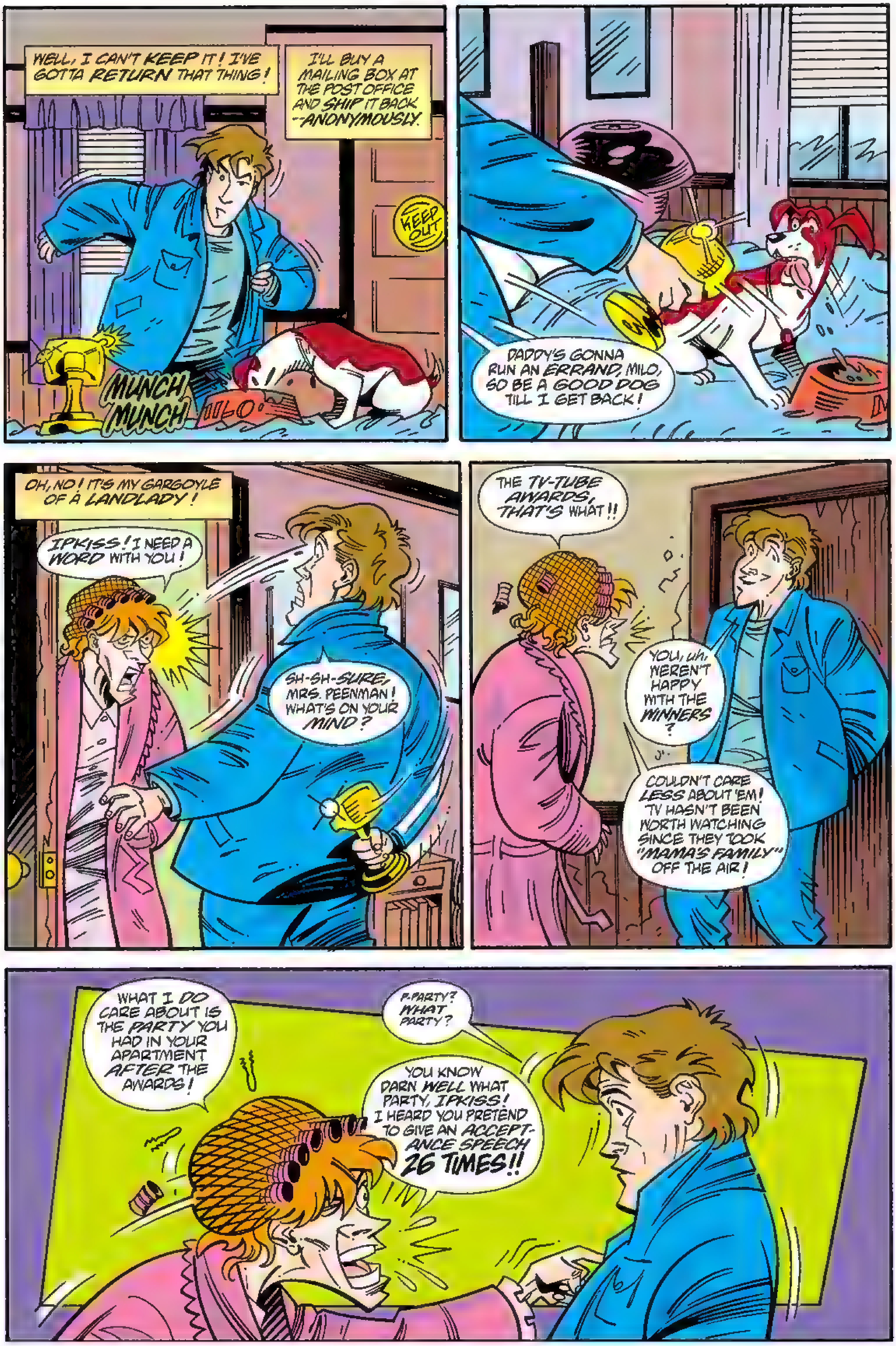
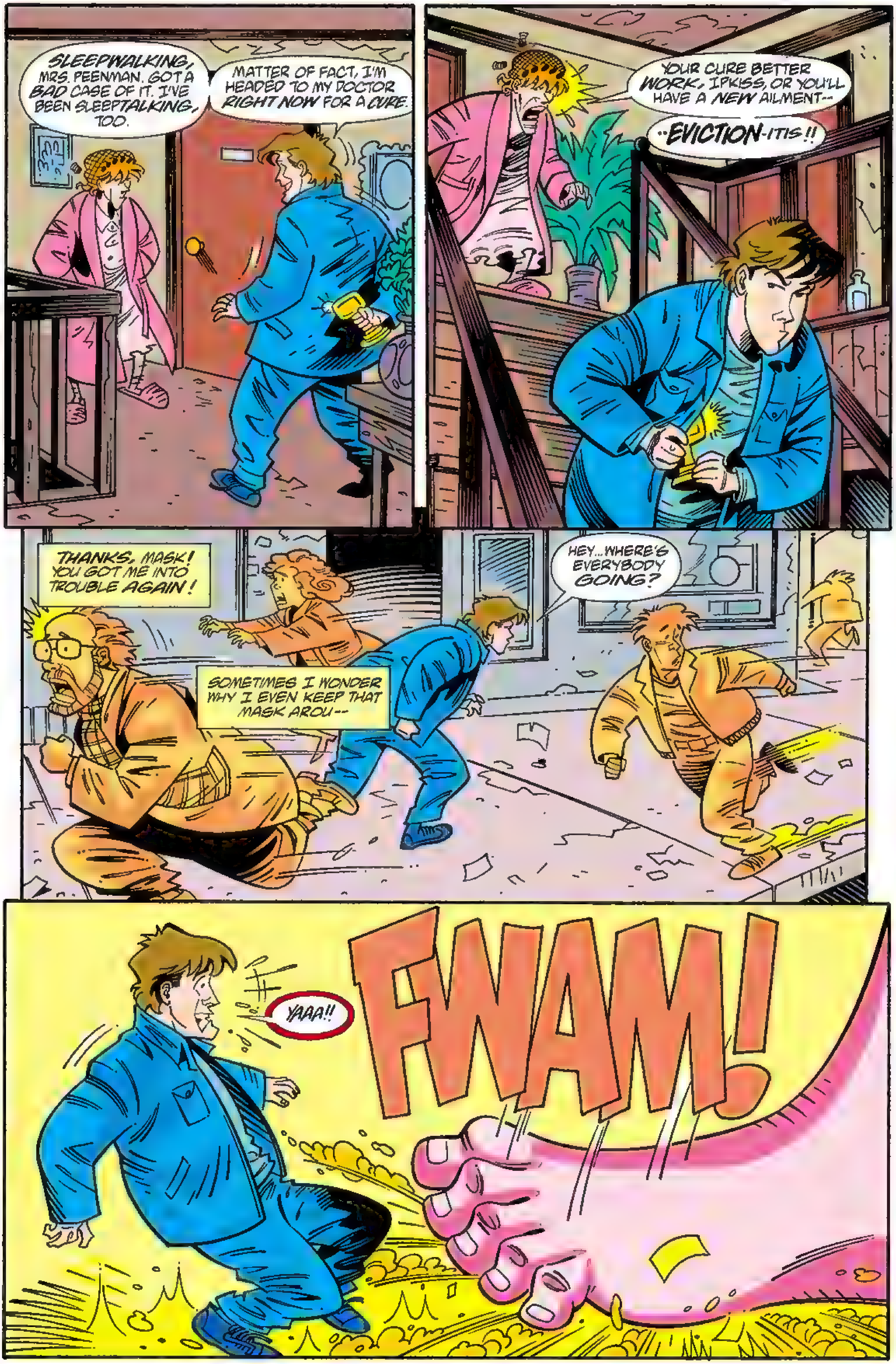

COMING TO YOU LIVE FROM CESAR ROMERO'S PALACE IN EDGE CITY--
--IT'S THE 1996 TV-TUBE AWARDS, HONORING THE BEST IN TELEVISION BROADCASTING.
I'M MEGAN OVERBIGHT, HERE WITH WEDG-TV'S EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE OF THIS SPECTACULAR EVENT.
W
WHY, LOOK-- TIM ALLMAN, STAR OF THE TOP-RATED "HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS" SERIES, HAS JUST ARRIVED.
AND THERE'S ONE OF TV'S MOST POPULAR COMEDIENNES, LOVABLE SNAPDRAGENNE.
GET THAT CAMERA OUTTA MY FACE, YOU @#$%&* JERK!
AND MAKING AN UNBELIEVABLY DRAMATIC ENTRANCE IS...IS...
FWOOSH

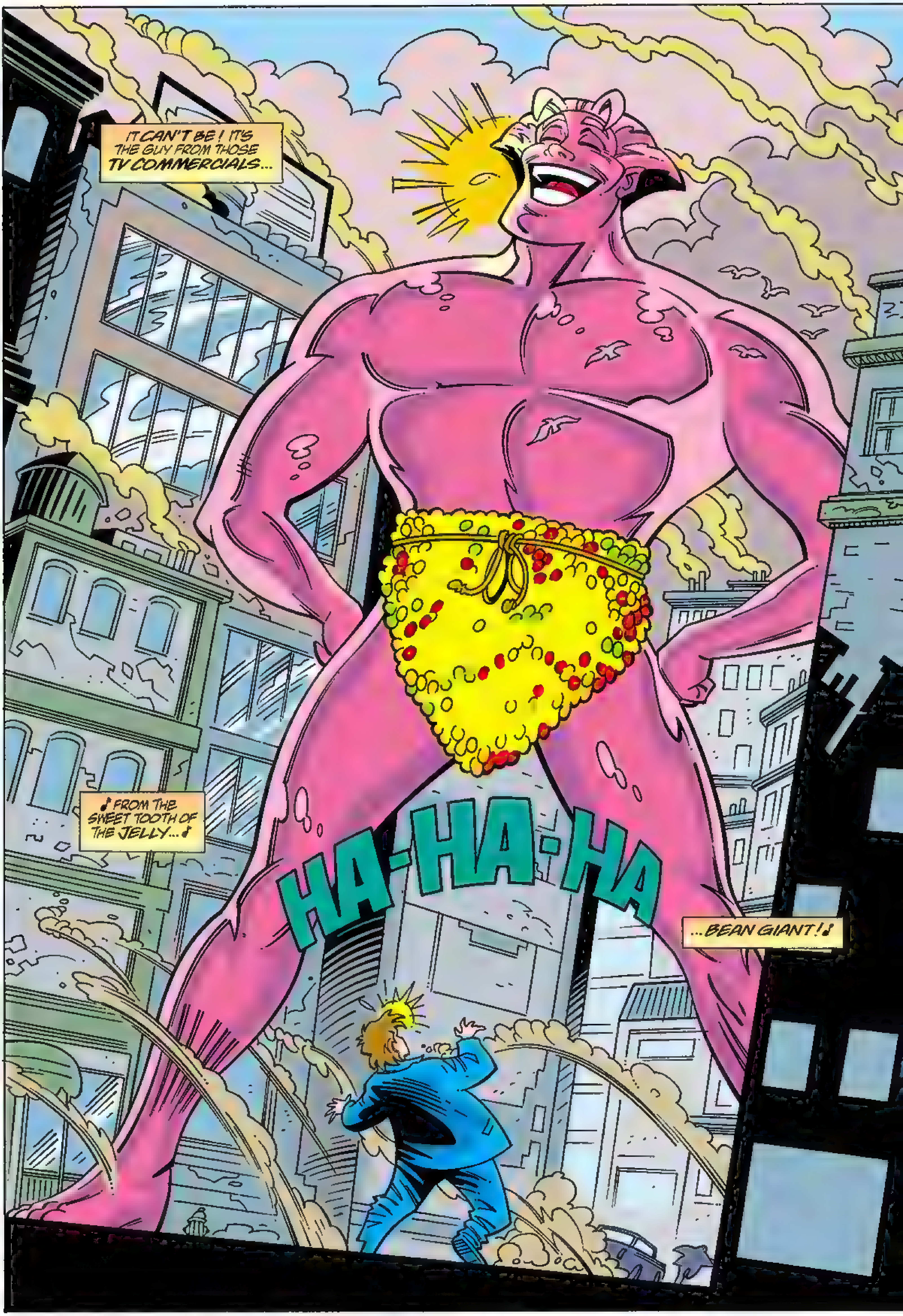
THE MASK®
SOMEBODY STOP ME!
W
REMOTELY POSSIBLE

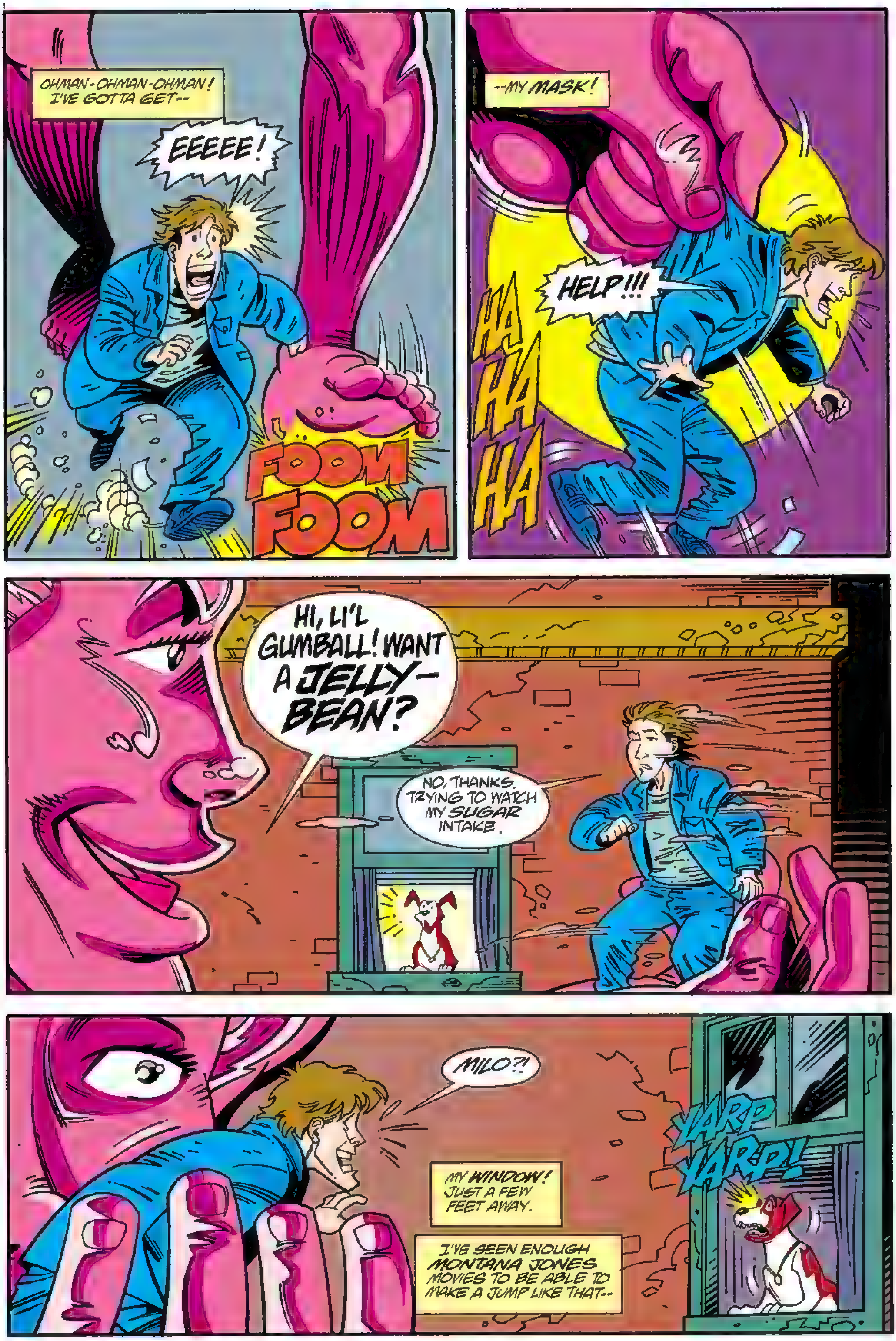

and now, THE TV-TUBE AWARD FOR "BEST PERFORMANCE BY A MISCHIEVOUS, WEDGIE-GIVING, GREEN-FACED SUPERHERO" GOES TO...
HEY--WHO CRAZY-GLUED THE ENVELOPE?!
...THE MASK!!
ME? LI'L OL' ME?! I'M SO :choke: MOVED.
:sob: I'D THANK THE ACADEMY IF I :sniff: DIDN'T DESERVE THIS AWARD SO.
THE MASK THINKS IT'S FUNNY TO MOCK THIS SACRED AWARDS RITUAL, DOES HE?
FOR HIS BLASPHEMY, THE MASK MUST BE... CANCELED!

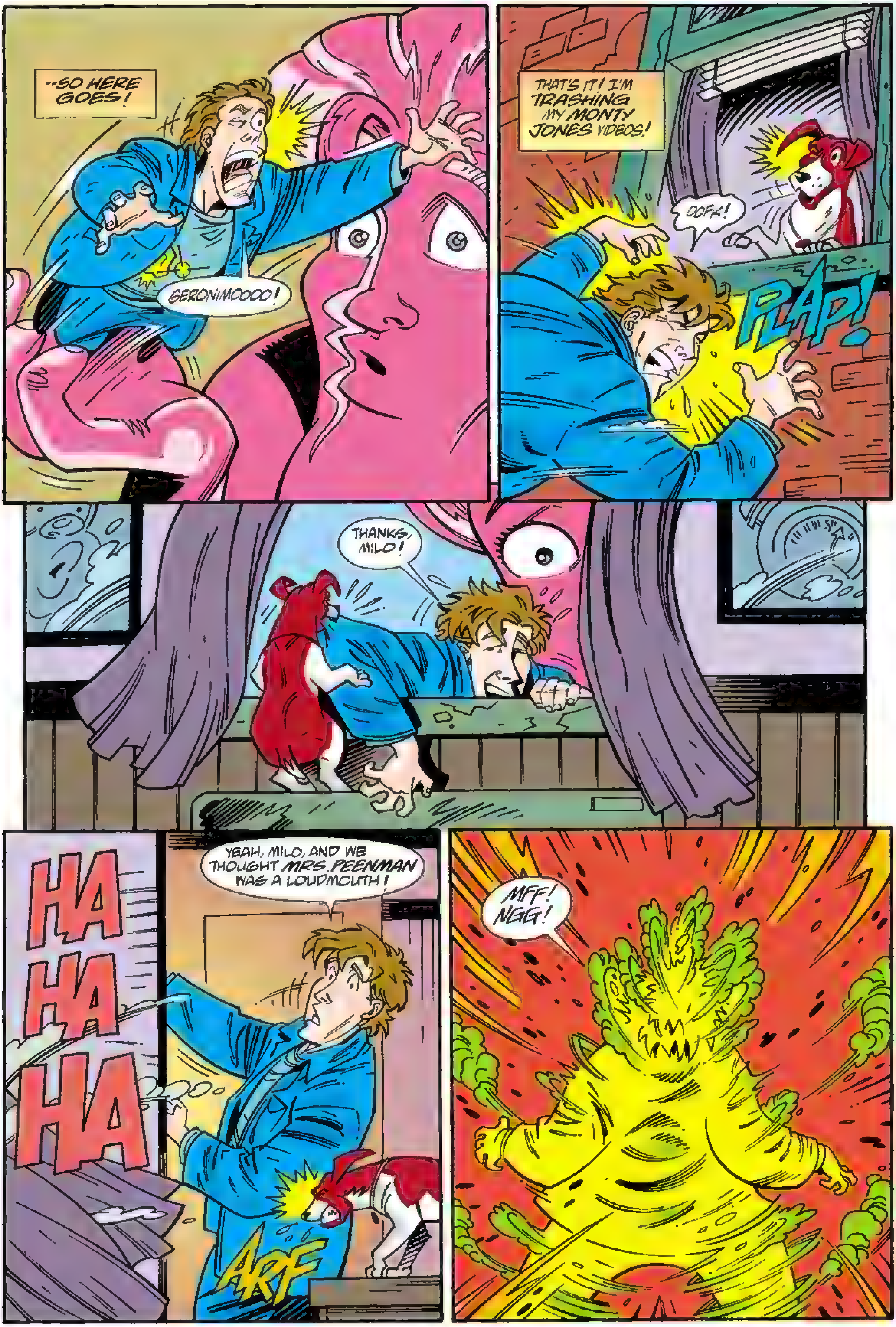

SHFFF
SLLLUP
HHMF?
STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME. AND THAT LICKING ALARM CLOCK IS MY DOG MILO.
YAWWWN!
I WENT TO BED EARLY LAST NIGHT, SO WHY AM I SO TIRED THIS MORNING?
OF COURSE--THE MASK! MY WACKY ALTER EGO MUST HAVE KEPT ME UP LATE--AGAIN.
BETTER PUT MY MASK BACK WHERE IT BELONGS!
HEY! HOW'D THAT GET IN THERE?!!
IT'S A TV-TUBE AWARD--SOLID GOLD AND VERY VALUABLE!
MUST BE A SOUVENIR FROM THE MASK'S NIGHT ON THE TOWN!

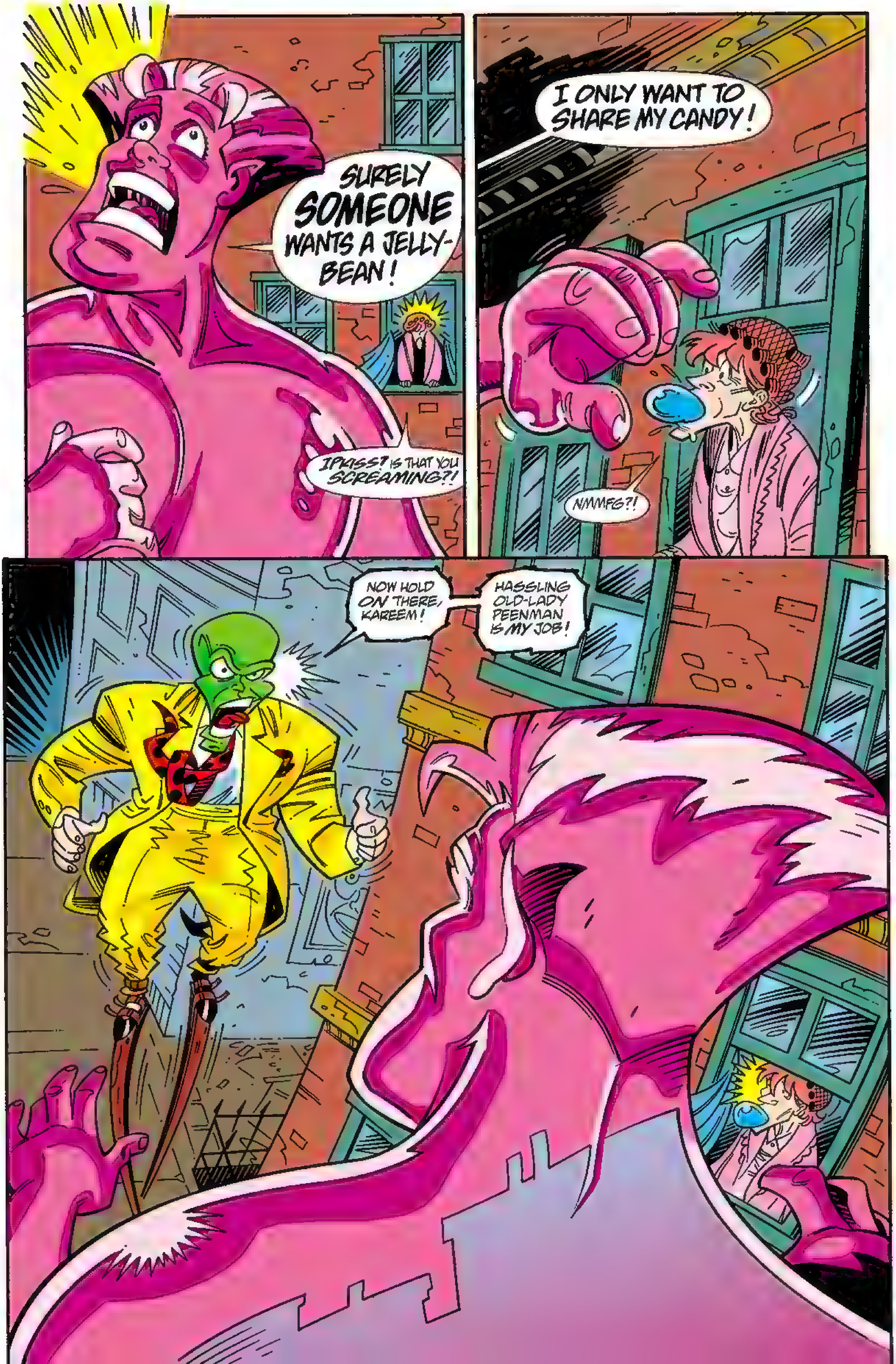

WELL, I CAN'T KEEP IT! I'VE GOTTA RETURN THAT THING!
I'LL BUY A MAILING BOX AT THE POST OFFICE AND SHIP IT BACK --ANONYMOUSLY.
KEEP OUT
MUNCH MUNCH
MILO
DADDY'S GONNA RUN AN ERRAND, MILO, SO BE A GOOD DOG TILL I GET BACK!
OH, NO! IT'S MY GARGOYLE OF A LANDLADY!
IPKISS! I NEED A WORD WITH YOU!
SH-SH-SURE, MRS. PEENMAN! WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
THE TV-TUBE AWARDS, THAT'S WHAT!!
YOU, uh, WEREN'T HAPPY WITH THE WINNERS?
COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT 'EM! TV HASN'T BEEN WORTH WATCHING SINCE THEY TOOK "MAMA'S FAMILY" OFF THE AIR!
WHAT I DO CARE ABOUT IS THE PARTY YOU HAD IN YOUR APARTMENT AFTER THE AWARDS!
P-PARTY? WHAT PARTY?
YOU KNOW DARN WELL WHAT PARTY, IPKISS! I HEARD YOU PRETEND TO GIVE AN ACCEPTANCE SPEECH 26 TIMES!!

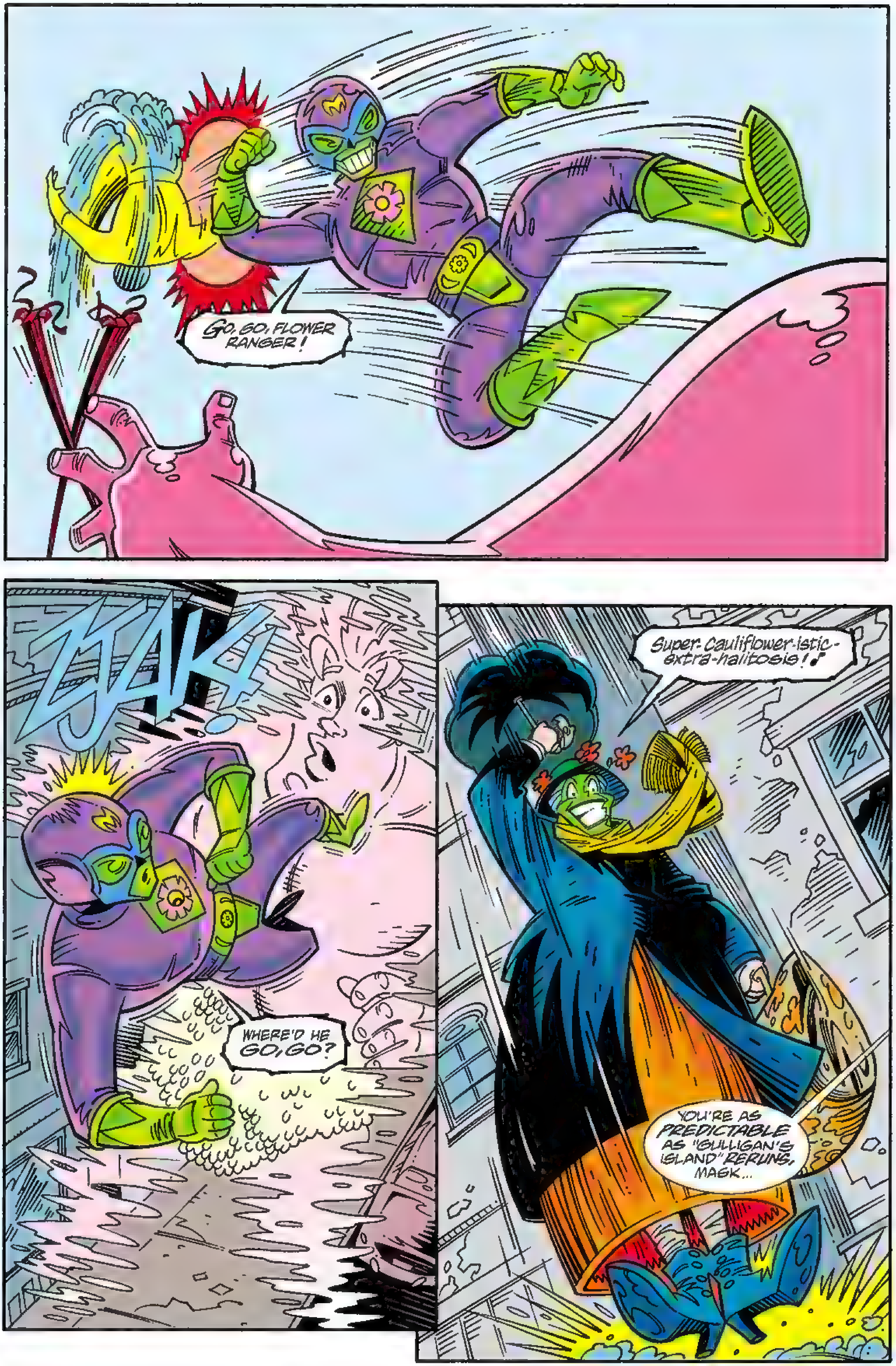

SLEEPWALKING, MRS. PEENMAN. GOT A BAD CASE OF IT. I'VE BEEN SLEEPTALKING, TOO.
MATTER OF FACT, I'M HEADED TO MY DOCTOR RIGHT NOW FOR A CURE.
YOUR CURE BETTER WORK, IPKISS, OR YOU'LL HAVE A NEW AILMENT--
--EVICTION-ITIS!!
THANKS, MASK! YOU GOT ME INTO TROUBLE AGAIN!
SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY I EVEN KEEP THAT MASK AROU--
HEY...WHERE'S EVERYBODY GOING?
YAAA!!
FWAM!

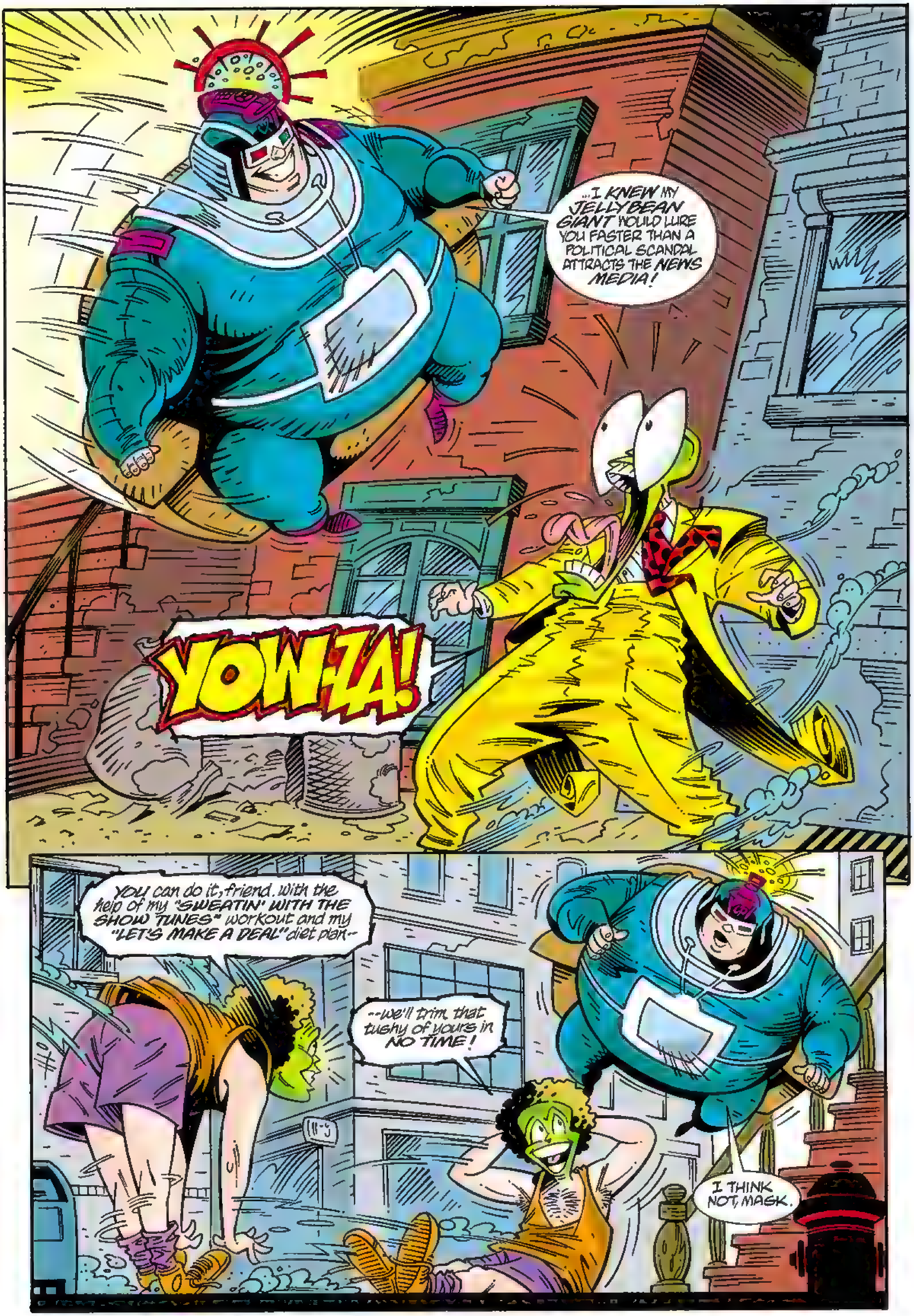

IT CAN'T BE! IT'S THE GUY FROM THOSE TV COMMERCIALS...
♪FROM THE SWEET TOOTH OF THE JELLY...♪
HA-HA-HA
...BEAN GIANT!♪

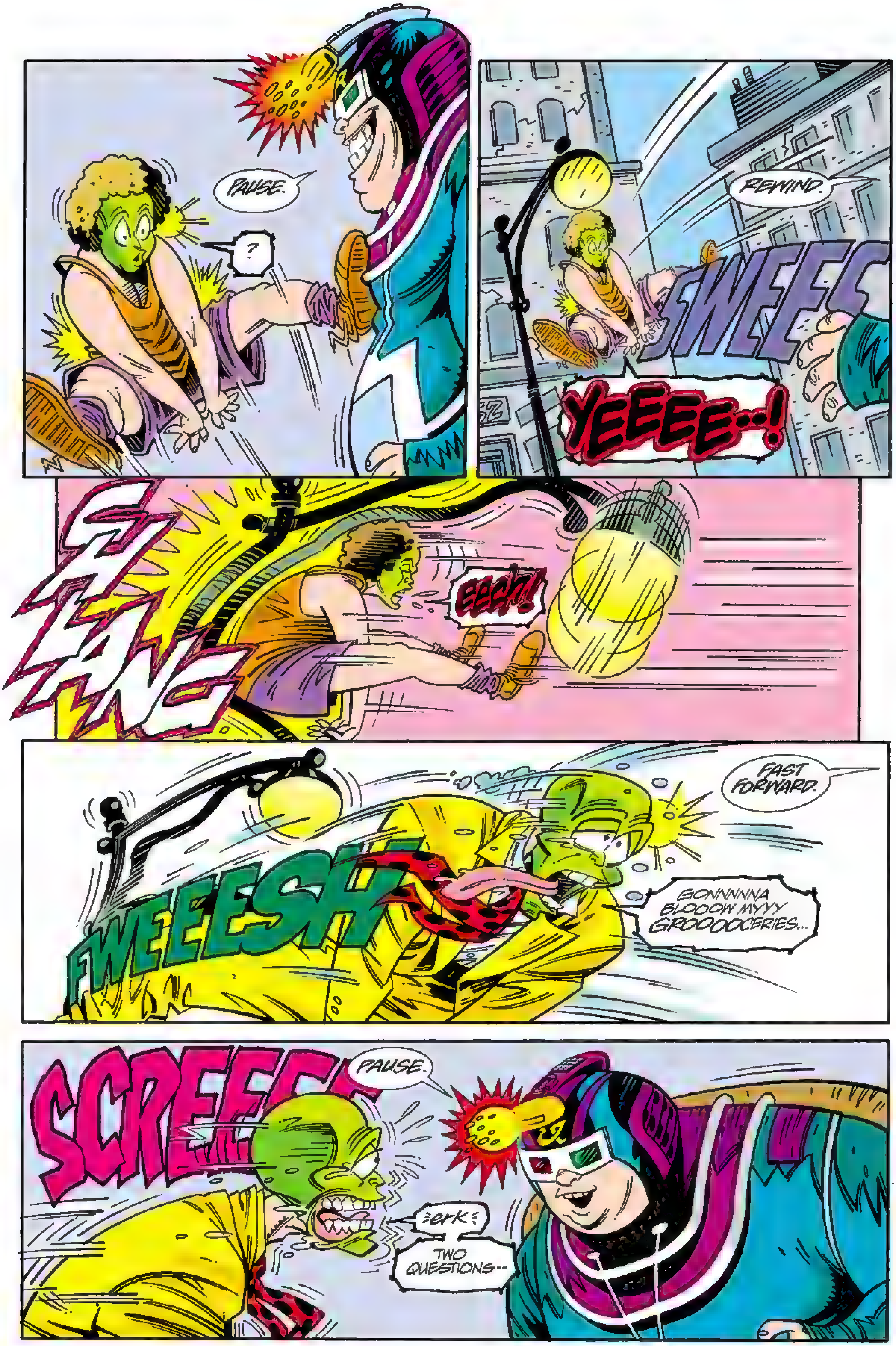

OHMAN-OHMAN-OHMAN! I'VE GOTTA GET--
EEEEE!
FOOM FOOM
--MY MASK!
HELP!!!
HA HA HA HA
HI, LI'L GUMBALL! WANT A JELLY-BEAN?
NO, THANKS. TRYING TO WATCH MY SUGAR INTAKE.
MILO?!
MY WINDOW! JUST A FEW FEET AWAY.
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH MONTANA JONES MOVIES TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A JUMP LIKE THAT--
YARP YARP!

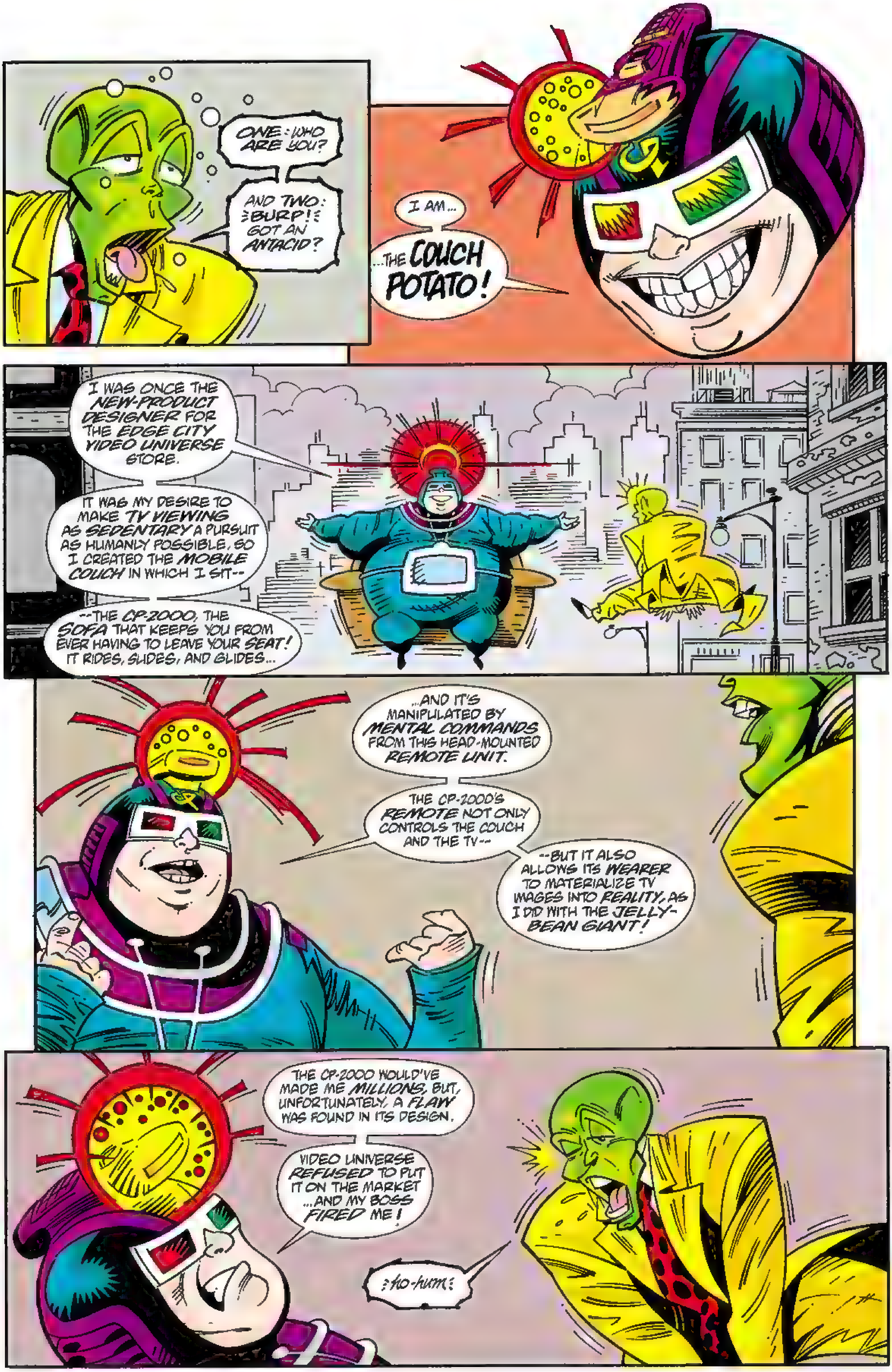

--SO HERE GOES!
GERONIMOOOO!
THAT'S IT! I'M TRASHING MY MONTY JONES VIDEOS!
OOFK!
PLAP!
THANKS, MILO!
HA HA HA
YEAH, MILO, AND WE THOUGHT MRS. PEENMAN WAS A LOUDMOUTH!
ARF
MFF! NGG!

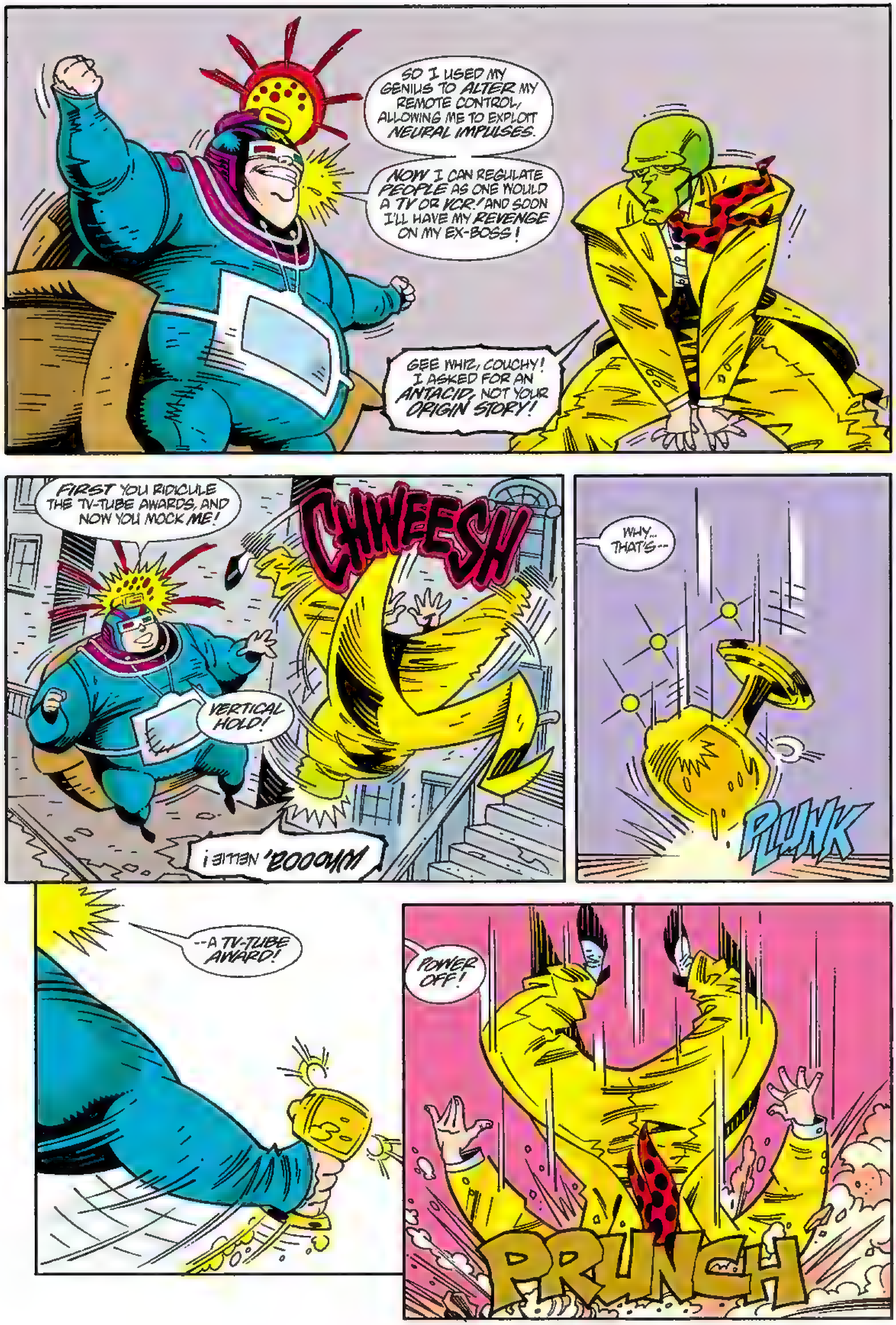

SURELY SOMEONE WANTS A JELLY-BEAN!
IPKISS?! IS THAT YOU SCREAMING?!
I ONLY WANT TO SHARE MY CANDY!
NMMFG?!
NOW HOLD ON THERE, KAREEM!
HASSLING OLD-LADY PEENMAN IS MY JOB!

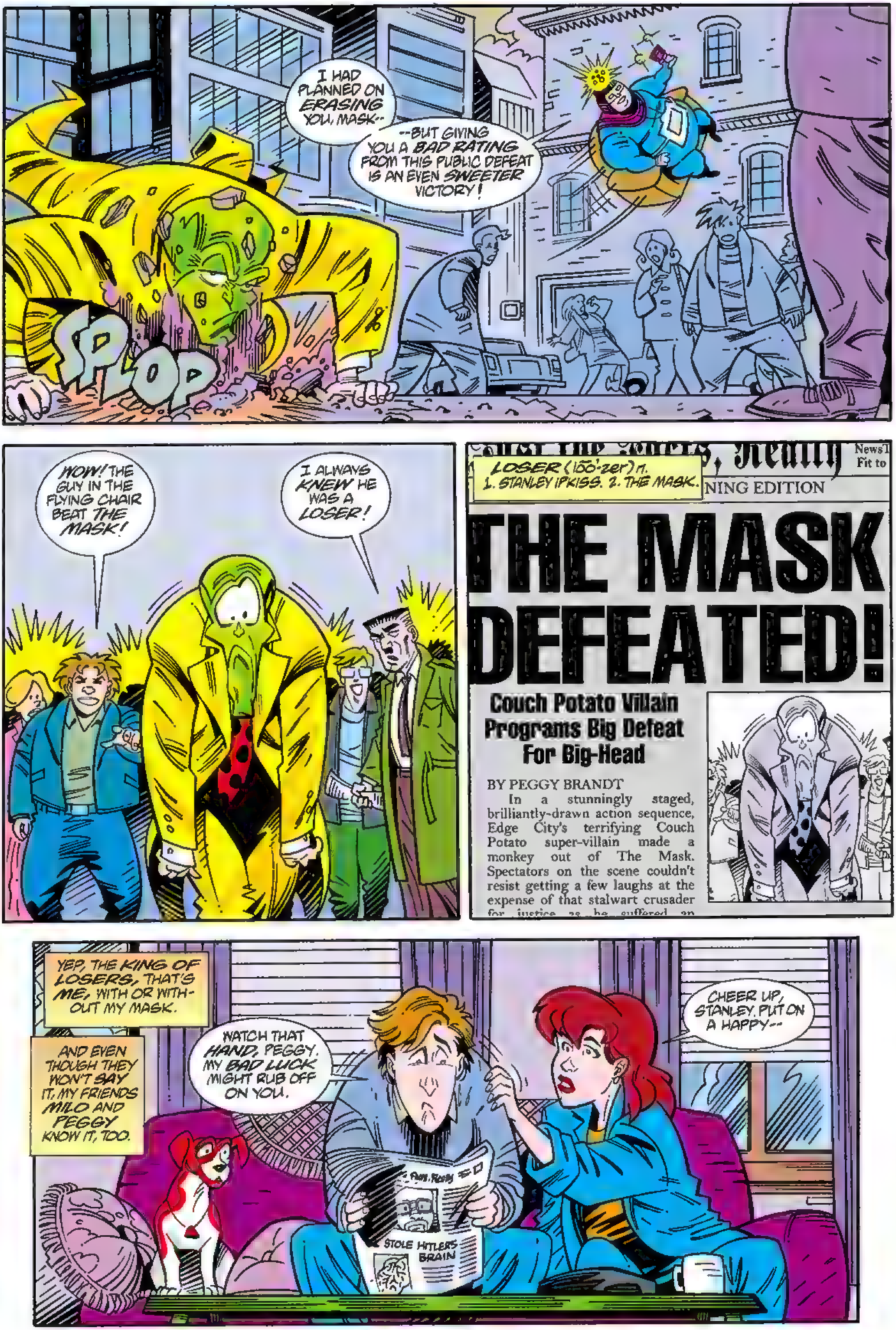

GO, GO, FLOWER RANGER!
ZZAK!
WHERE'D HE GO, GO?
Super-cauliflower-istic-extra-halitosis!♪
YOU'RE AS PREDICTABLE AS "GULLIGAN'S ISLAND" RERUNS, MASK...

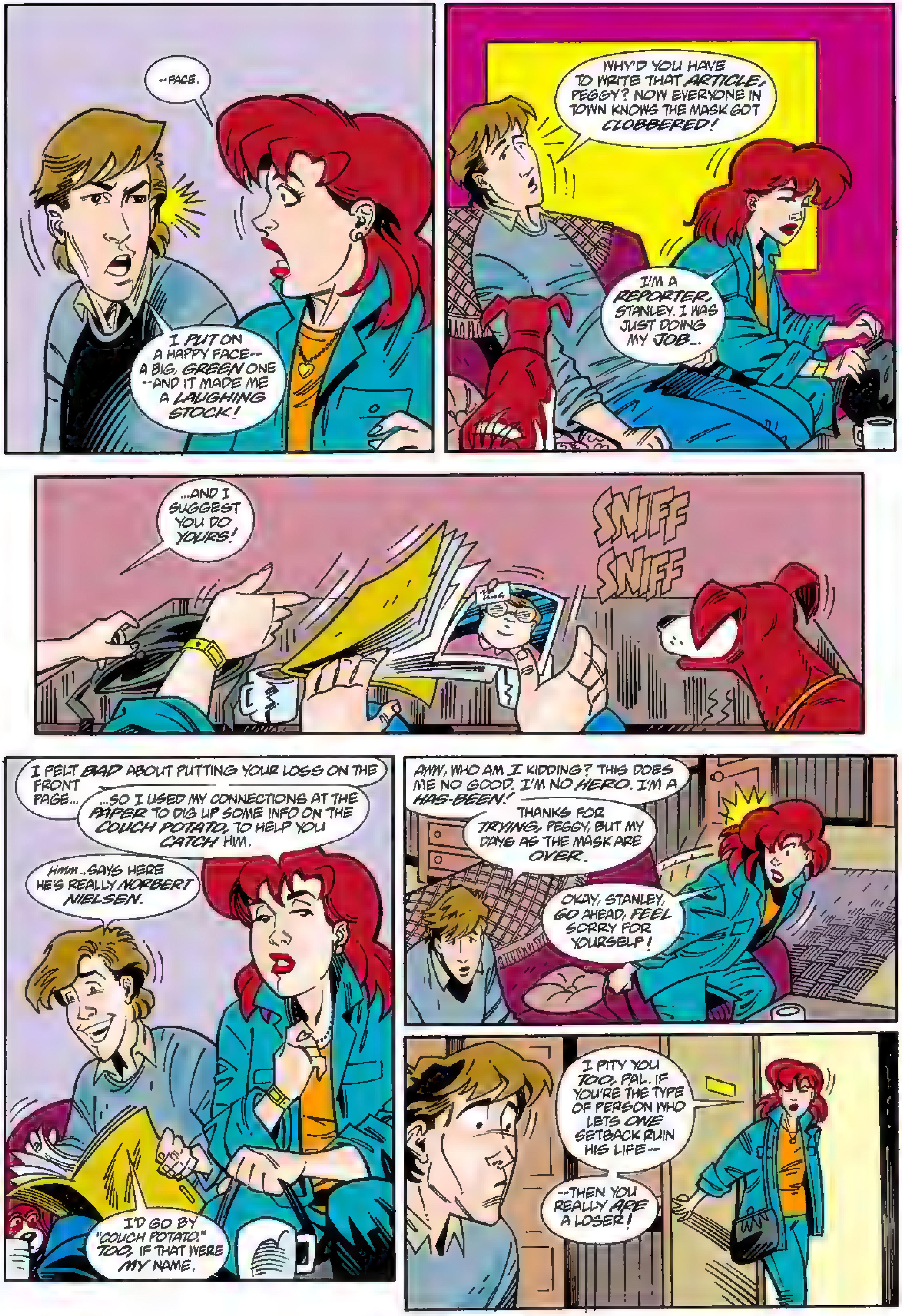

...I KNEW MY JELLYBEAN GIANT WOULD LURE YOU FASTER THAN A POLITICAL SCANDAL ATTRACTS THE NEWS MEDIA!
YOW-ZA!
YOU can do it, friend. With the help of my "SWEATIN' WITH THE SHOW TUNES" workout and my "LET'S MAKE A DEAL" diet plan--
--we'll trim that tushy of yours in NO TIME!
I THINK NOT, MASK.

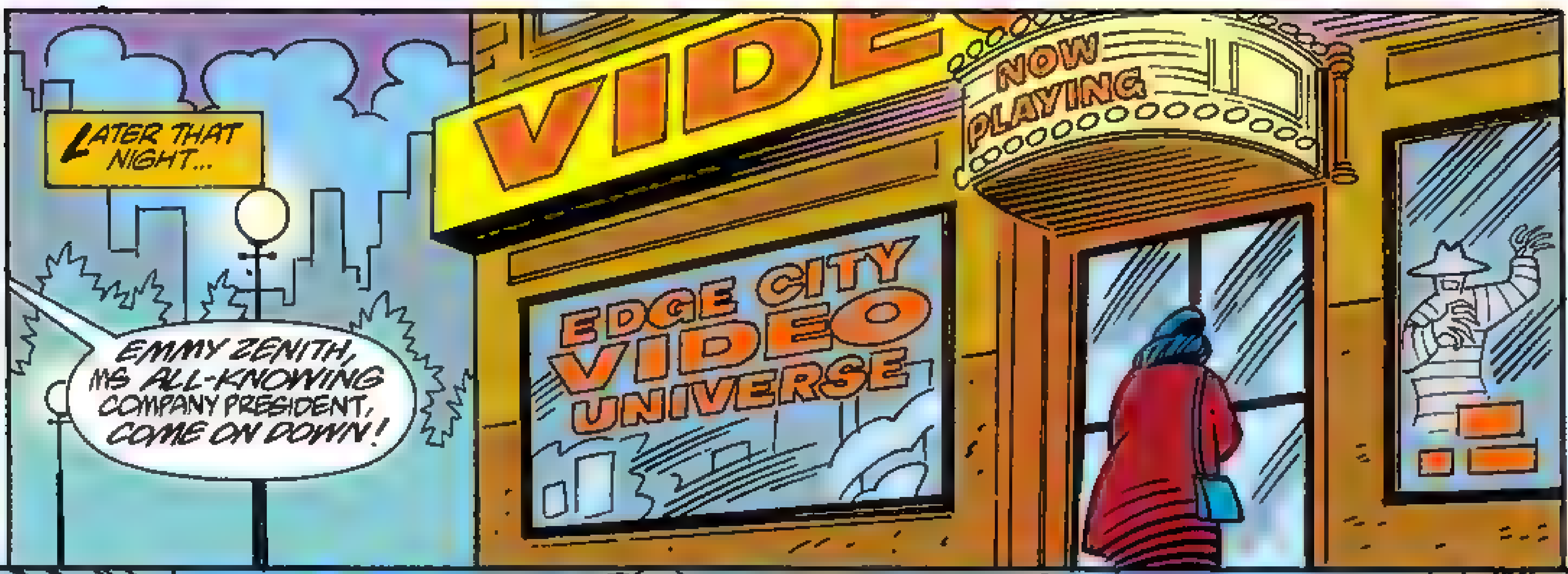

PAUSE.
?
REWIND.
SWEEE
YEEEEE--!
SHANG
EESH!
FAST FORWARD.
FWEEESH
GONNNNNA BLOOOW MYYY GROOOOCERIES...
SCREEEE
PAUSE.
erk
TWO QUESTIONS--

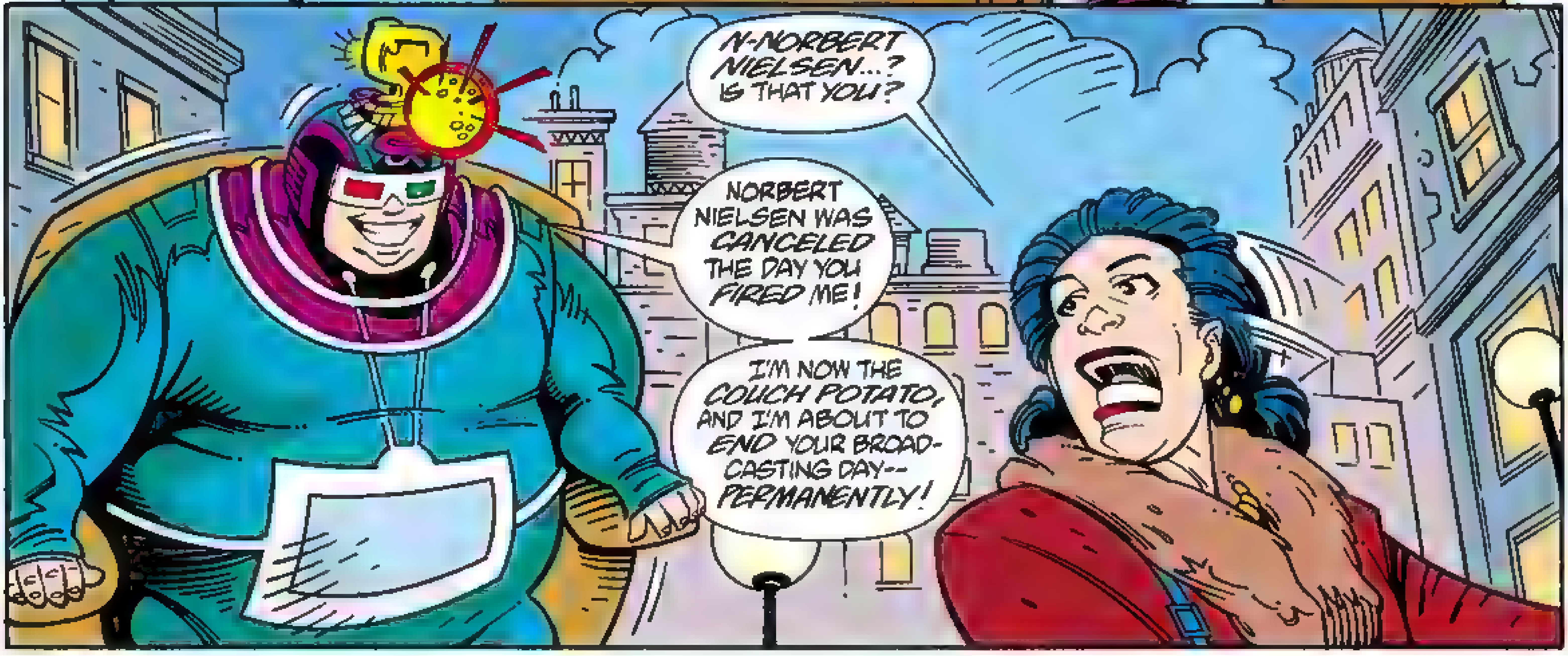

ONE: WHO ARE YOU?
AND TWO: :BURP!: GOT AN ANTACID?
I AM...
...THE COUCH POTATO!
I WAS ONCE THE NEW-PRODUCT DESIGNER FOR THE EDGE CITY VIDEO UNIVERSE STORE.
IT WAS MY DESIRE TO MAKE TV VIEWING AS SEDENTARY A PURSUIT AS HUMANLY POSSIBLE, SO I CREATED THE MOBILE COUCH IN WHICH I SIT--
--THE CP-2000, THE SOFA THAT KEEPS YOU FROM EVER HAVING TO LEAVE YOUR SEAT! IT RIDES, SLIDES, AND GLIDES...
...AND IT'S MANIPULATED BY MENTAL COMMANDS FROM THIS HEAD-MOUNTED REMOTE UNIT.
THE CP-2000'S REMOTE NOT ONLY CONTROLS THE COUCH AND THE TV--
--BUT IT ALSO ALLOWS ITS WEARER TO MATERIALIZE TV IMAGES INTO REALITY, AS I DID WITH THE JELLY-BEAN GIANT!
THE CP-2000 WOULD'VE MADE ME MILLIONS, BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, A FLAW WAS FOUND IN ITS DESIGN.
VIDEO UNIVERSE REFUSED TO PUT IT ON THE MARKET ...AND MY BOSS FIRED ME!
:ho-hum:

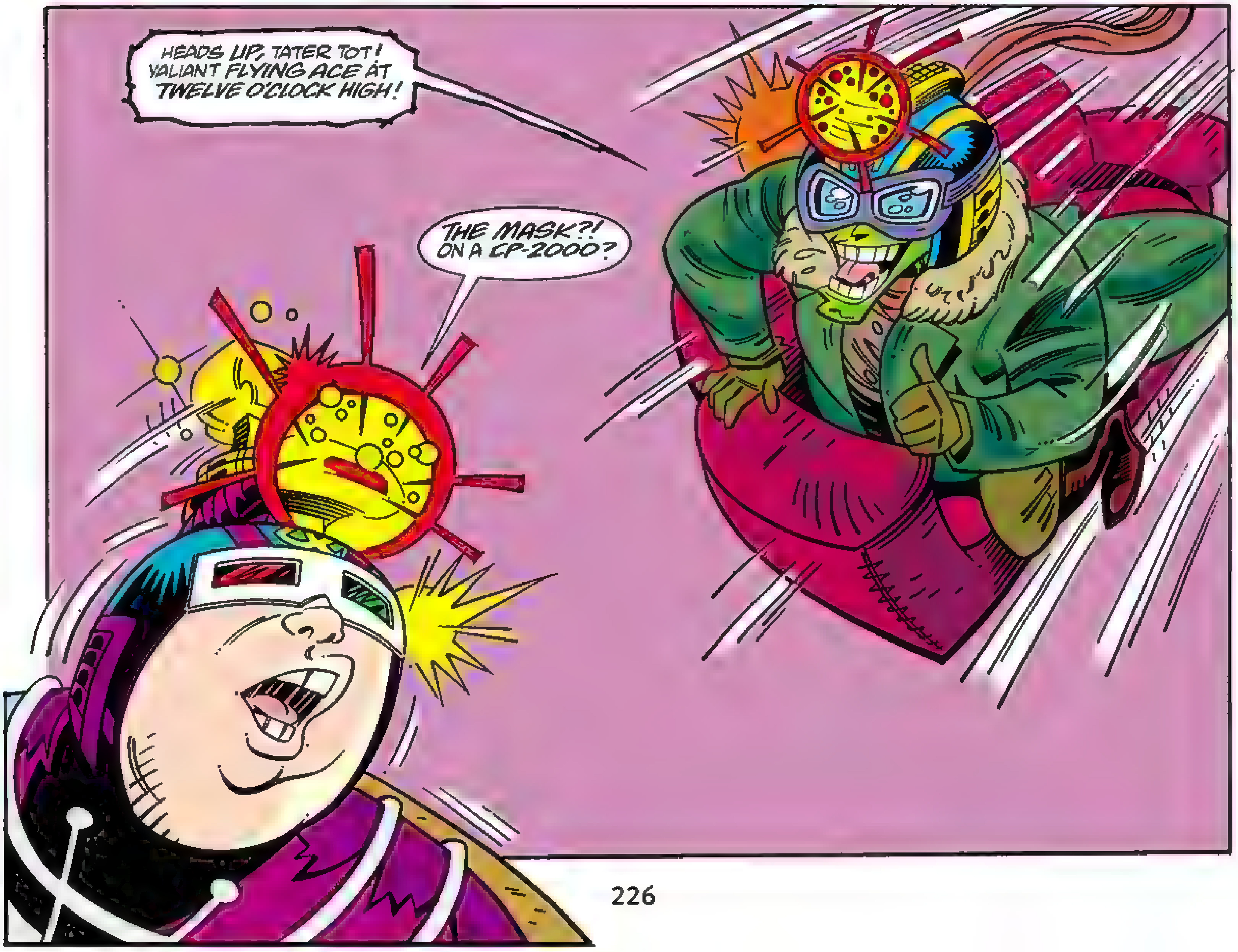

SO I USED MY GENIUS TO *ALTER* MY REMOTE CONTROL, ALLOWING ME TO EXPLOIT *NEURAL IMPULSES.*
NOW I CAN REGULATE *PEOPLE* AS ONE WOULD A *TV* OR *VCR!* AND SOON I'LL HAVE MY *REVENGE* ON MY EX-BOSS!
GEE WHIZ, COUCHY! I ASKED FOR AN *ANTACID,* NOT YOUR *ORIGIN STORY!*
FIRST YOU RIDICULE THE TV-TUBE AWARDS, AND NOW YOU MOCK *ME!*
CHWEESH
VERTICAL HOLD!
WHOOOSH, NELLIE!
WHY... THAT'S--
PLUNK
--A TV-TUBE AWARD!
POWER OFF!
PRUNCH

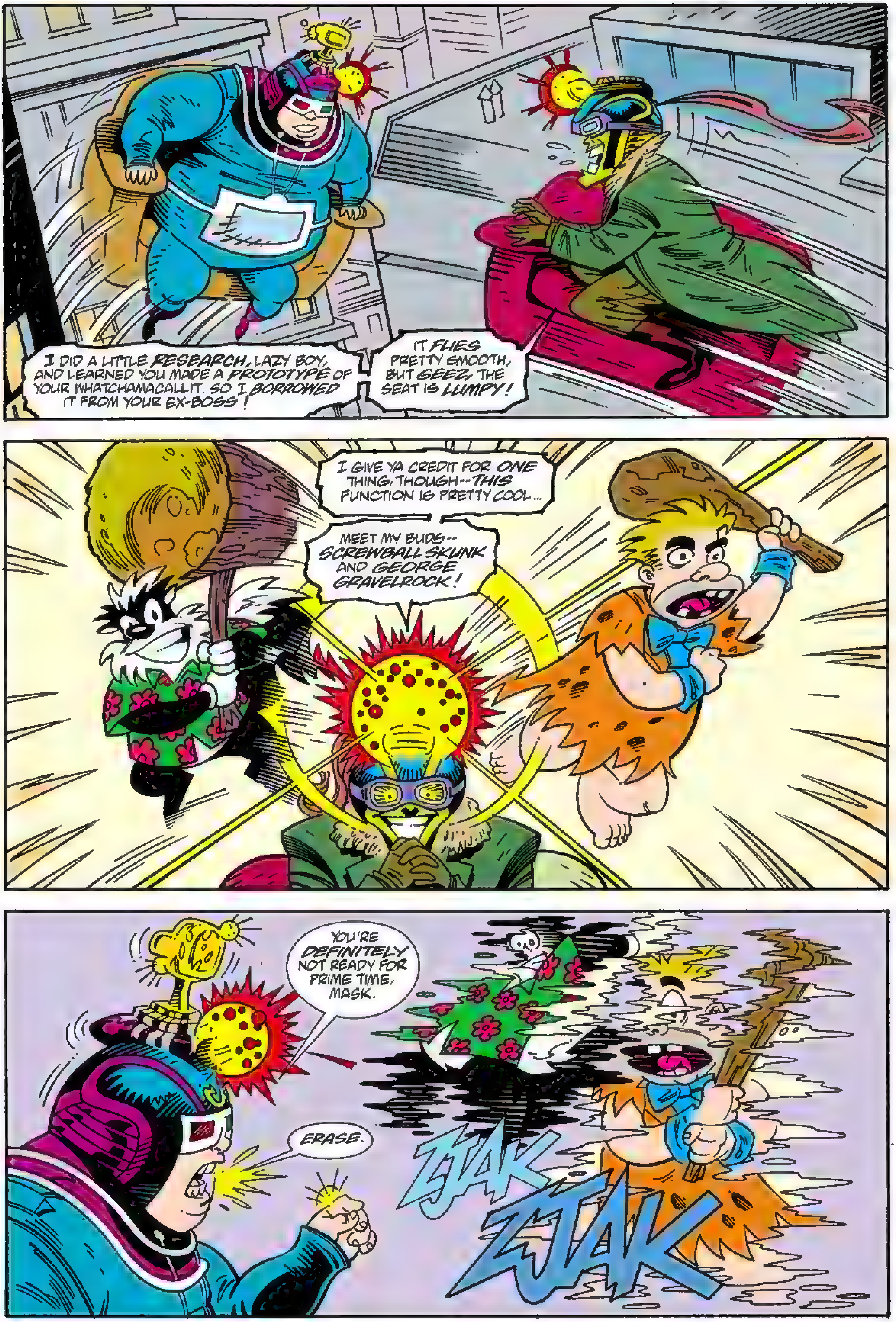

I HAD PLANNED ON ERASING YOU, MASK--
--BUT GIVING YOU A BAD RATING FROM THIS PUBLIC DEFEAT IS AN EVEN SWEETER VICTORY!
SPLOP
WOW! THE GUY IN THE FLYING CHAIR BEAT THE MASK!
I ALWAYS KNEW HE WAS A LOSER!
News T Fit to
LOSER (lōō'zer) n. 1. STANLEY IPKISS. 2. THE MASK.
NING EDITION
THE MASK DEFEATED!
Couch Potato Villain Programs Big Defeat For Big-Head
BY PEGGY BRANDT
In a stunningly staged, brilliantly-drawn action sequence, Edge City's terrifying Couch Potato super-villain made a monkey out of The Mask. Spectators on the scene couldn't resist getting a few laughs at the expense of that stalwart crusader for justice as he suffered an
YEP, THE KING OF LOSERS, THAT'S ME, WITH OR WITHOUT MY MASK.
AND EVEN THOUGH THEY WON'T SAY IT, MY FRIENDS MILO AND PEGGY KNOW IT, TOO.
WATCH THAT HAND, PEGGY. MY BAD LUCK MIGHT RUB OFF ON YOU.
CHEER UP, STANLEY. PUT ON A HAPPY--
STOLE HITLER'S BRAIN

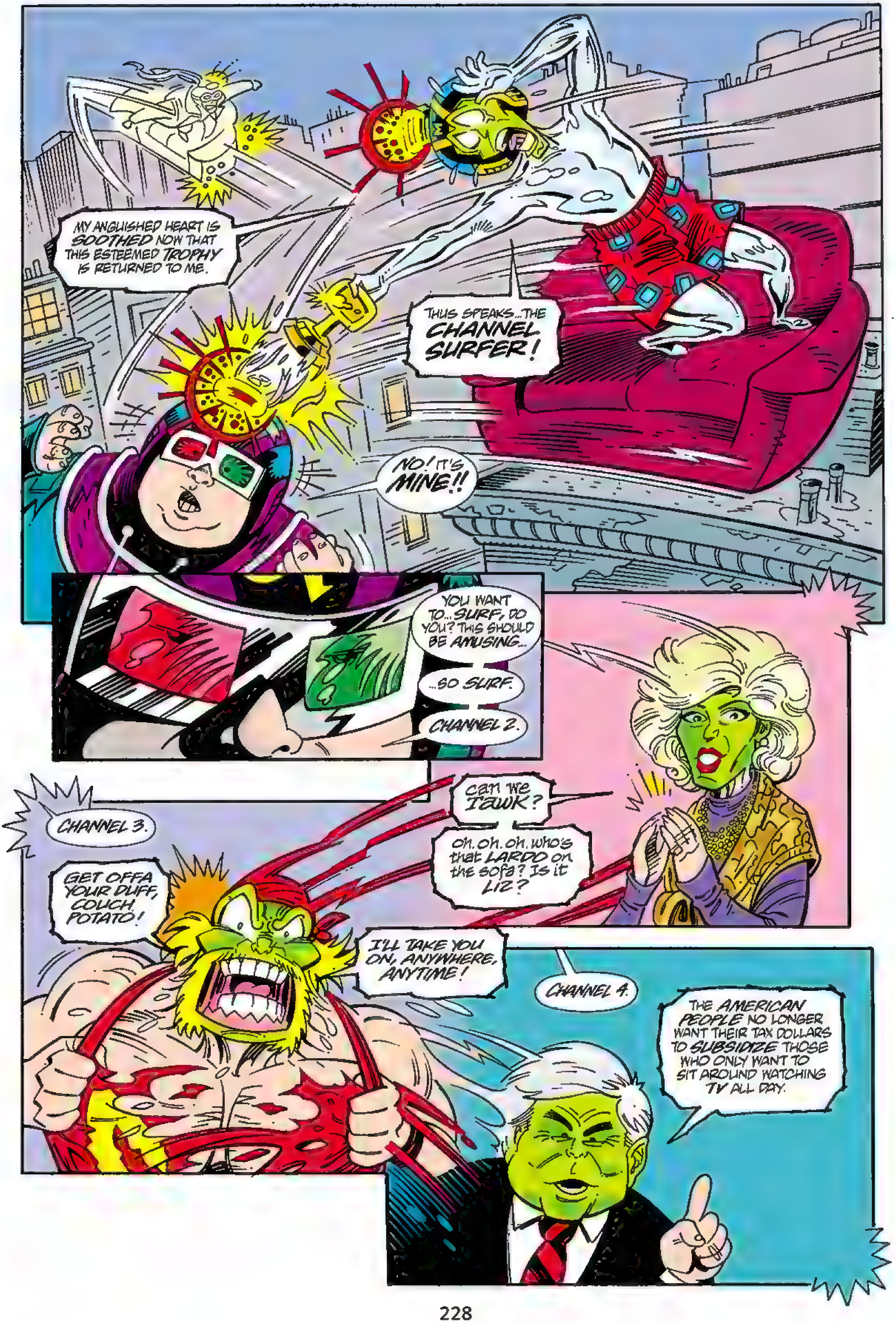

--FACE.
I PUT ON A HAPPY FACE-- A BIG, GREEN ONE --AND IT MADE ME A LAUGHING STOCK!
WHY'D YOU HAVE TO WRITE THAT ARTICLE, PEGGY? NOW EVERYONE IN TOWN KNOWS THE MASK GOT CLOBBERED!
I'M A REPORTER, STANLEY. I WAS JUST DOING MY JOB...
...AND I SUGGEST YOU DO YOURS!
SNIFF SNIFF
I FELT BAD ABOUT PUTTING YOUR LOSS ON THE FRONT PAGE...
...SO I USED MY CONNECTIONS AT THE PAPER TO DIG UP SOME INFO ON THE COUCH POTATO, TO HELP YOU CATCH HIM.
Hmm.. SAYS HERE HE'S REALLY NORBERT NIELSEN.
I'D GO BY "COUCH POTATO," TOO, IF THAT WERE MY NAME.
AWW, WHO AM I KIDDING? THIS DOES ME NO GOOD. I'M NO HERO. I'M A HAS-BEEN!
THANKS FOR TRYING, PEGGY, BUT MY DAYS AS THE MASK ARE OVER.
OKAY, STANLEY, GO AHEAD, FEEL SORRY FOR YOURSELF!
I PITY YOU TOO, PAL. IF YOU'RE THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO LETS ONE SETBACK RUIN HIS LIFE--
--THEN YOU REALLY ARE A LOSER!


LATER THAT NIGHT...
VIDE
NOW PLAYING
EDGE CITY VIDEO UNIVERSE
EMMY ZENITH, MS ALL-KNOWING COMPANY PRESIDENT, COME ON DOWN!

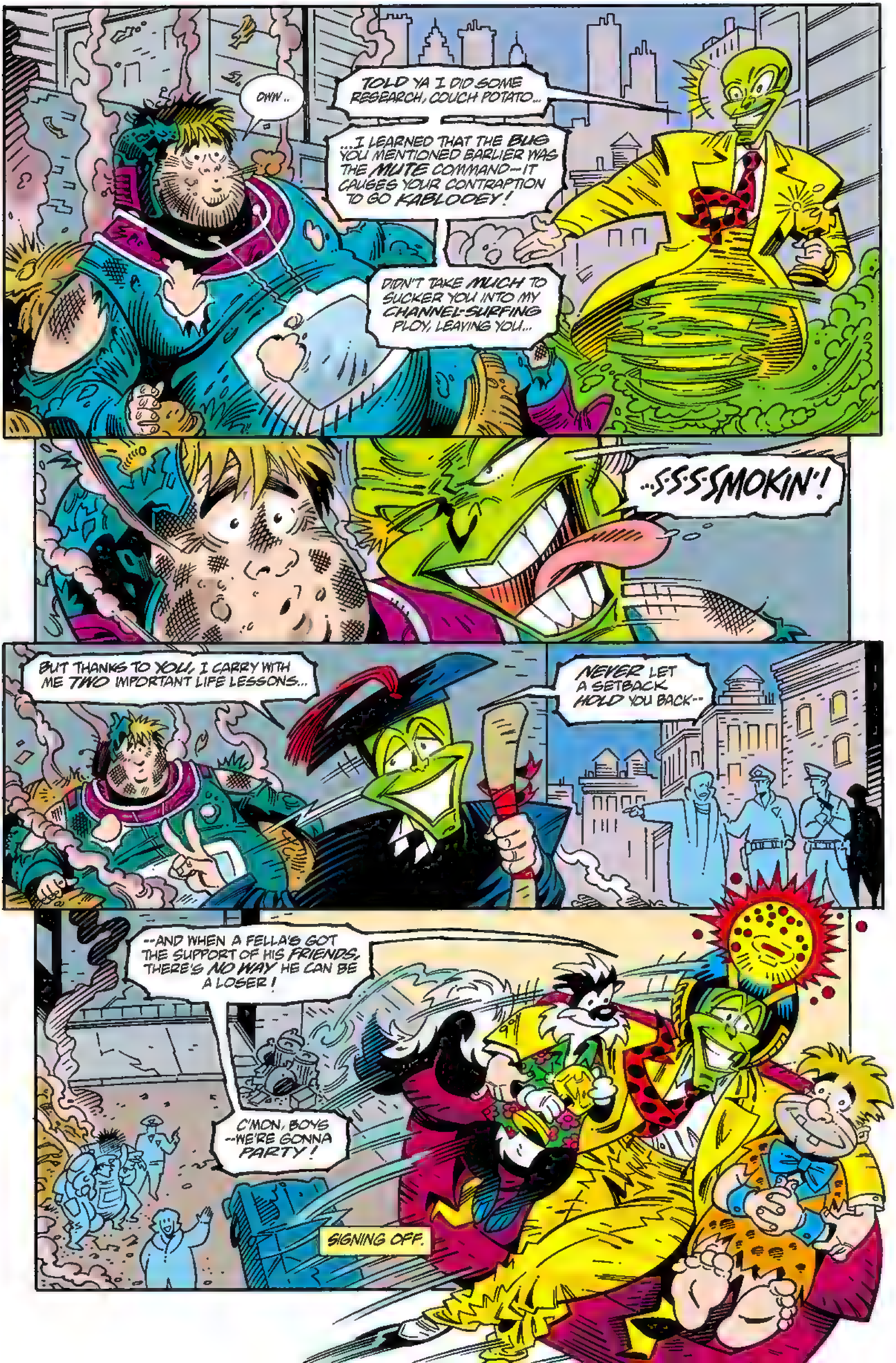

N-NORBERT NIELSEN...? IS THAT YOU?
NORBERT NIELSEN WAS CANCELED THE DAY YOU FIRED ME!
I'M NOW THE COUCH POTATO, AND I'M ABOUT TO END YOUR BROADCASTING DAY-- PERMANENTLY!


HEADS UP, TATER TOT! VALIANT FLYING ACE AT TWELVE O'CLOCK HIGH!
THE MASK?! ON A CP-2000?

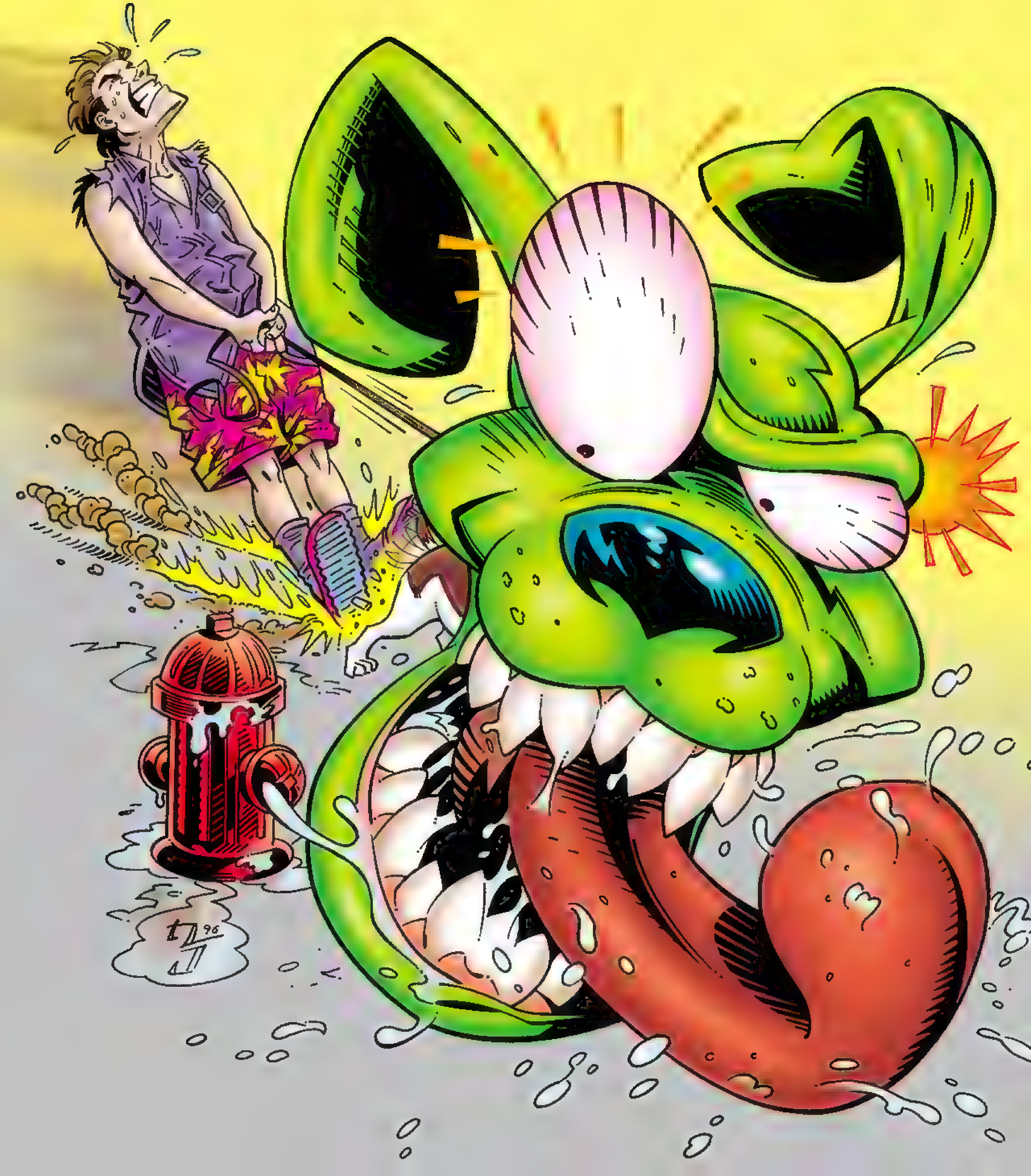

I DID A LITTLE *RESEARCH*, LAZY BOY, AND LEARNED YOU MADE A *PROTOTYPE* OF YOUR WHATCHAMACALLIT. SO I *BORROWED* IT FROM YOUR EX-BOSS!
IT *FLIES* PRETTY SMOOTH, BUT *GEEZ*, THE SEAT IS *LUMPY*!
I GIVE YA CREDIT FOR *ONE* THING, THOUGH--*THIS* FUNCTION IS PRETTY COOL...
MEET MY BUDS-- *SCREWBALL SKUNK* AND *GEORGE GRAVELROCK*!
YOU'RE *DEFINITELY* NOT READY FOR PRIME TIME, MASK.
ERASE.
ZJAK
ZJAK


MY ANGUISHED HEART IS SOOTHED NOW THAT THIS ESTEEMED TROPHY IS RETURNED TO ME.
THUS SPEAKS...THE CHANNEL SURFER!
NO! IT'S MINE!!
YOU WANT TO...SURF, DO YOU? THIS SHOULD BE AMUSING...
...SO SURF.
CHANNEL 2.
CAN WE TAWK?
OH, OH, OH, WHO'S THAT LARDO ON THE SOFA? IS IT LIZ?
CHANNEL 3.
GET OFFA YOUR DUFF, COUCH POTATO!
I'LL TAKE YOU ON, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME!
CHANNEL 4.
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NO LONGER WANT THEIR TAX DOLLARS TO SUBSIDIZE THOSE WHO ONLY WANT TO SIT AROUND WATCHING TV ALL DAY.

ALL RIGHTY THEN. I'M LOOKING FOR A MISSING BUNNY...PERHAPS HE'S LOST UNDER YOUR CUSHIONS.
uh... CHANNEL 5.
MEN WHO ARE AFRAID TO LEAVE THEIR SOFAS--ON THE NEXT "OKRAH."
IS THERE ANYTHING WORTH WATCHING TONIGHT?! CHANNEL 6!!
I'VE HAD IT WITH YOUR INSULTING ANTICS, MASK!
MUTE!!!!
That was a mistake.
CHA-PLOOOOOM


OWW..
TOLD YA I DID SOME RESEARCH, COUCH POTATO...
...I LEARNED THAT THE BUG YOU MENTIONED EARLIER WAS THE MUTE COMMAND--IT CAUSES YOUR CONTRAPTION TO GO KABLOOEY!
DIDN'T TAKE MUCH TO SUCKER YOU INTO MY CHANNEL-SURFING PLOY, LEAVING YOU...
..S-S-S-SMOKIN'!
BUT THANKS TO YOU, I CARRY WITH ME TWO IMPORTANT LIFE LESSONS...
NEVER LET A SETBACK HOLD YOU BACK--
--AND WHEN A FELLA'S GOT THE SUPPORT OF HIS FRIENDS, THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN BE A LOSER!
C'MON, BOYS --WE'RE GONNA PARTY!
SIGNING OFF.

DOG DAYS



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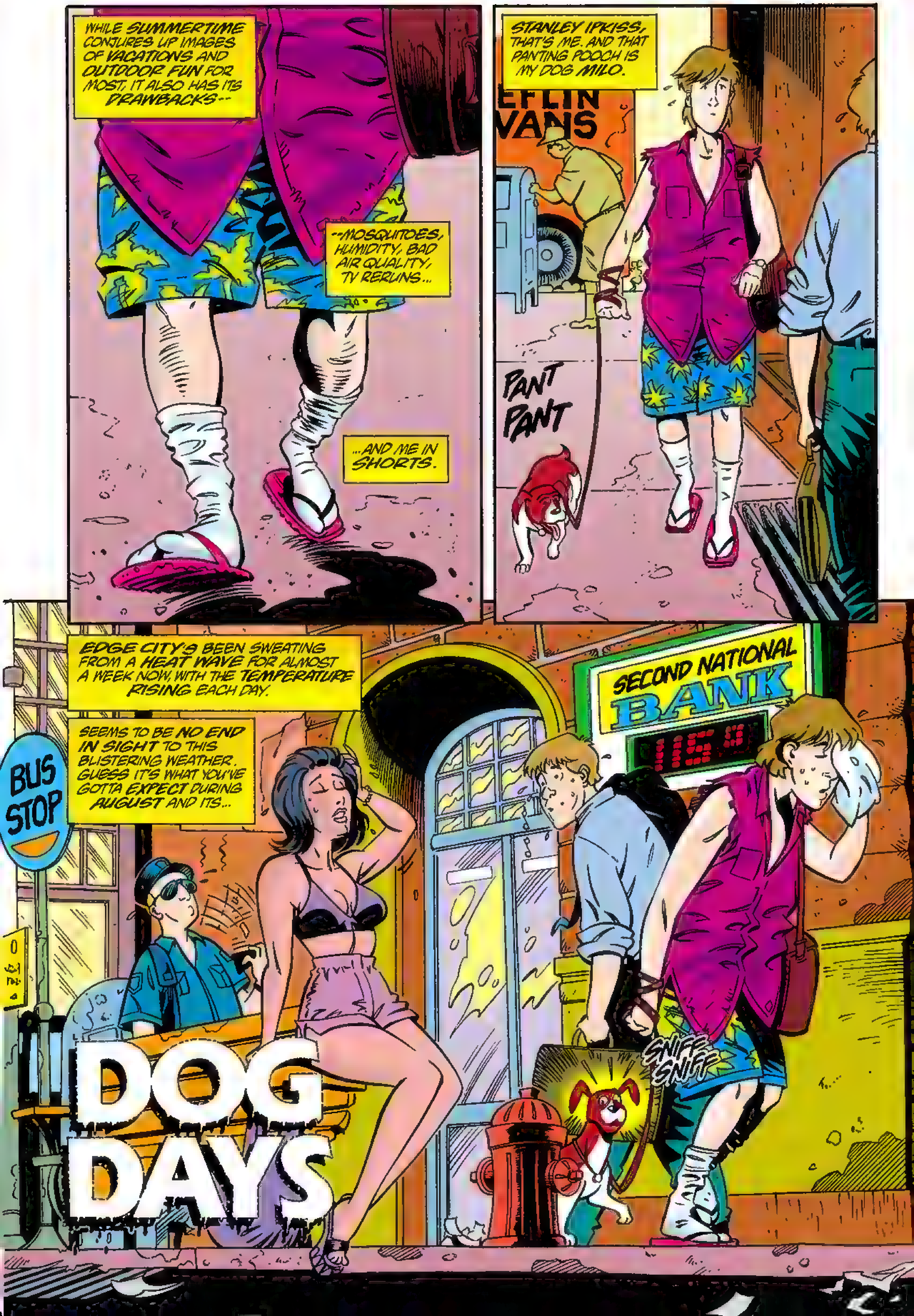
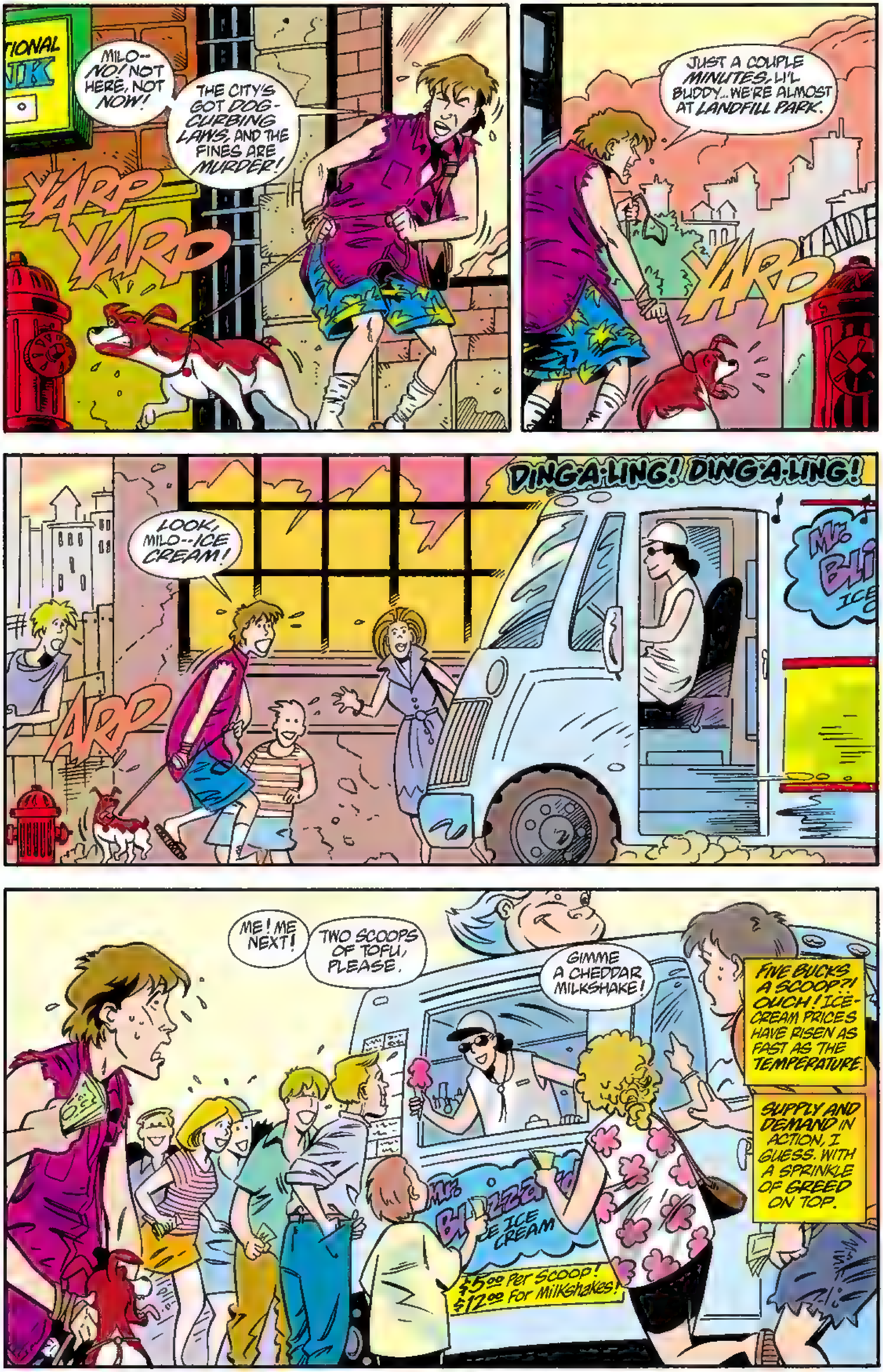
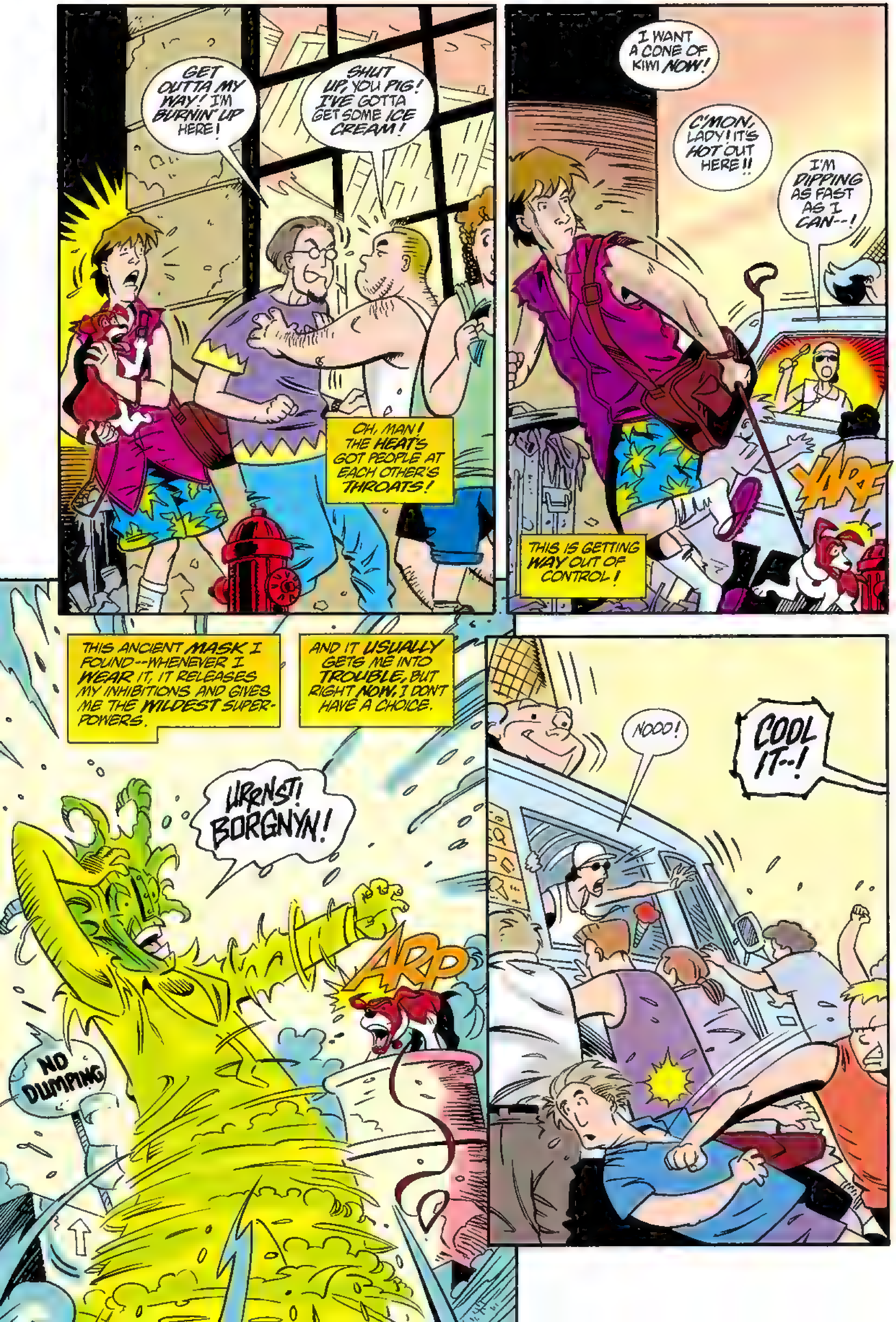
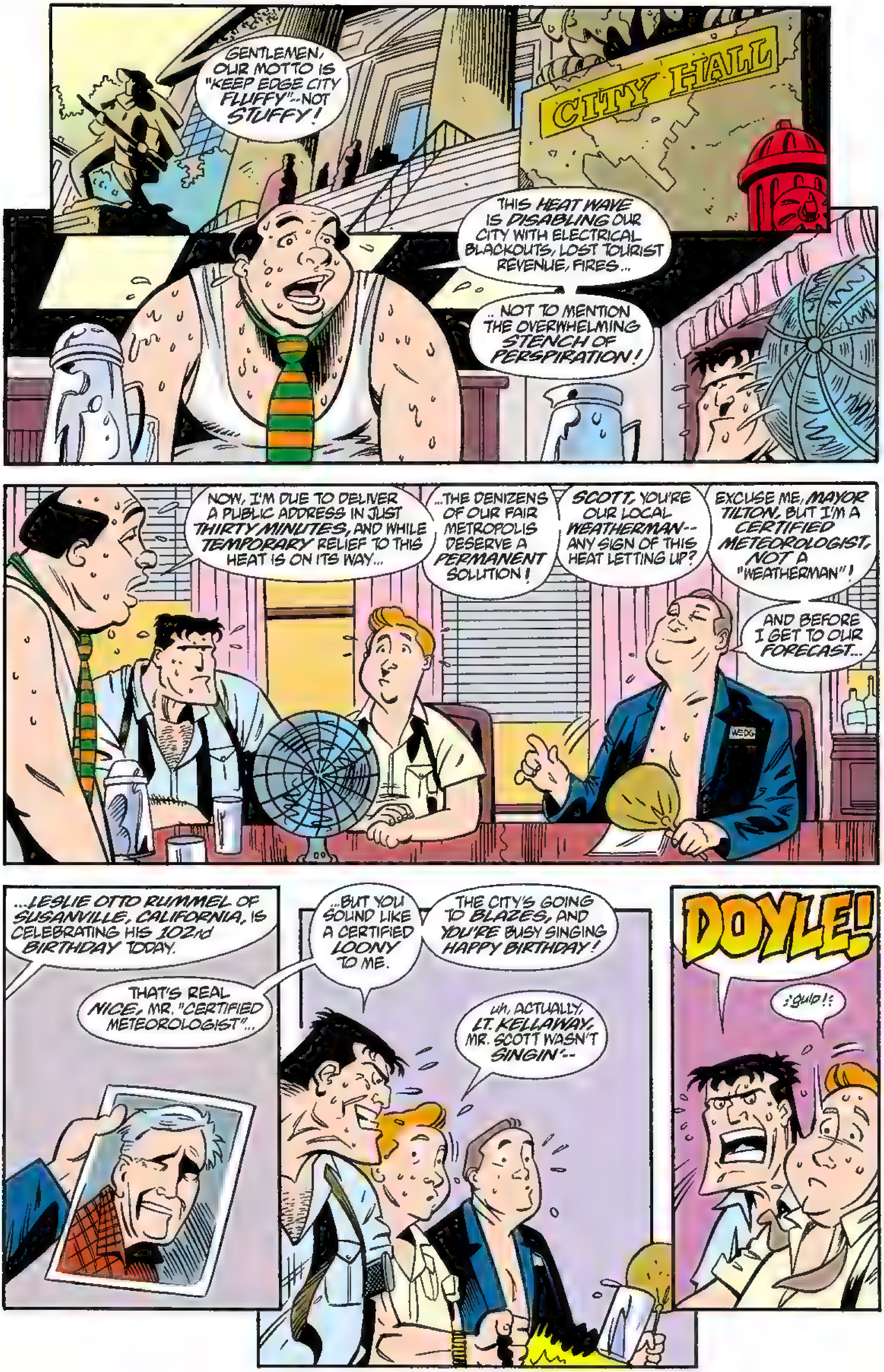
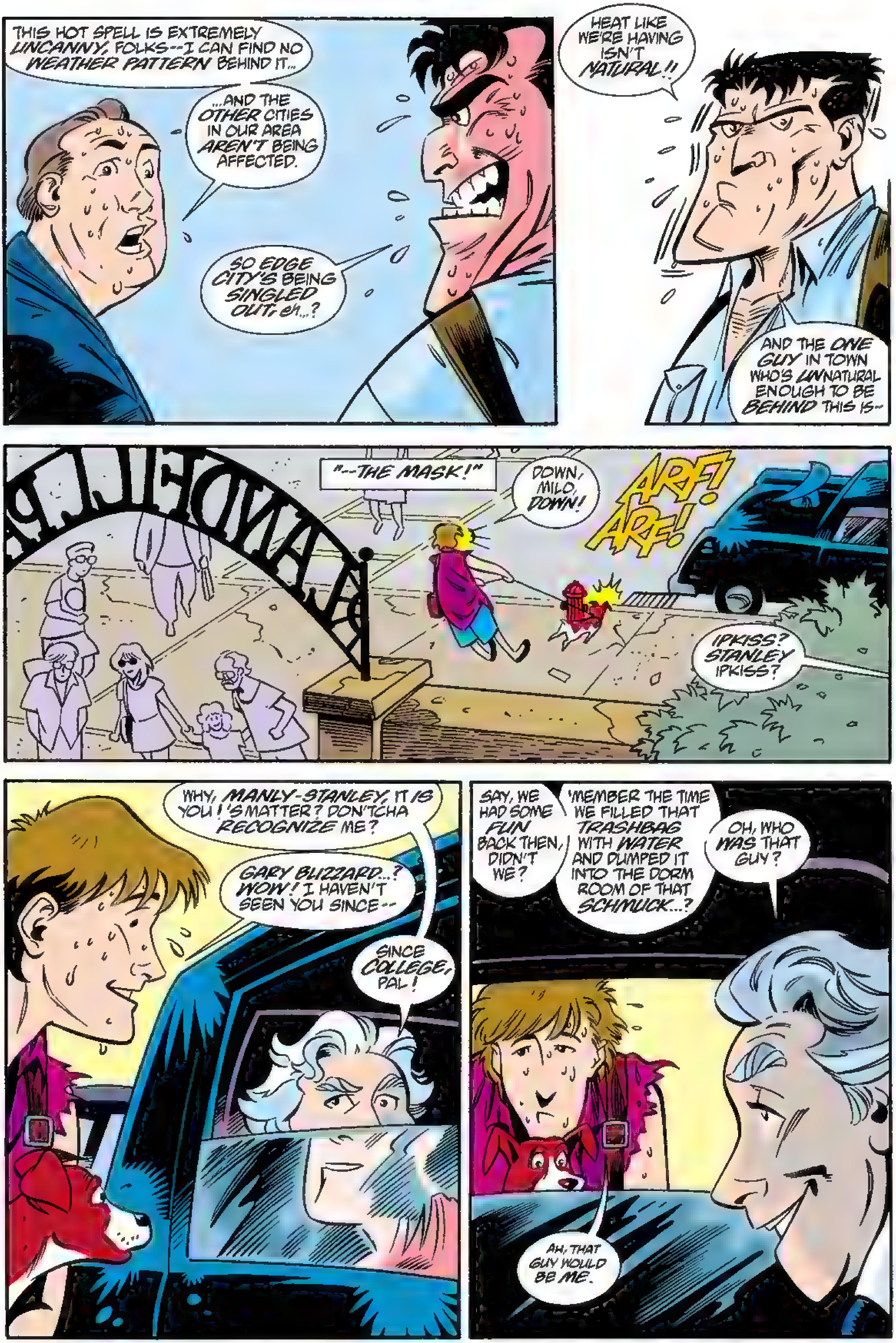

WHILE SUMMERTIME CONJURES UP IMAGES OF VACATIONS AND OUTDOOR FUN FOR MOST, IT ALSO HAS ITS DRAWBACKS--
--MOSQUITOES, HUMIDITY, BAD AIR QUALITY, TV RERUNS...
...AND ME IN SHORTS.
STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME. AND THAT PANTING POOCH IS MY DOG MILO.
EFLIN
VANS
PANT PANT
EDGE CITY'S BEEN SWEATING FROM A HEAT WAVE FOR ALMOST A WEEK NOW, WITH THE TEMPERATURE RISING EACH DAY.
SEEMS TO BE NO END IN SIGHT TO THIS BLISTERING WEATHER. GUESS IT'S WHAT YOU'VE GOTTA EXPECT DURING AUGUST AND ITS...
BUS STOP
SECOND NATIONAL BANK
115.9
SNIFF SNIFF
DOG DAYS

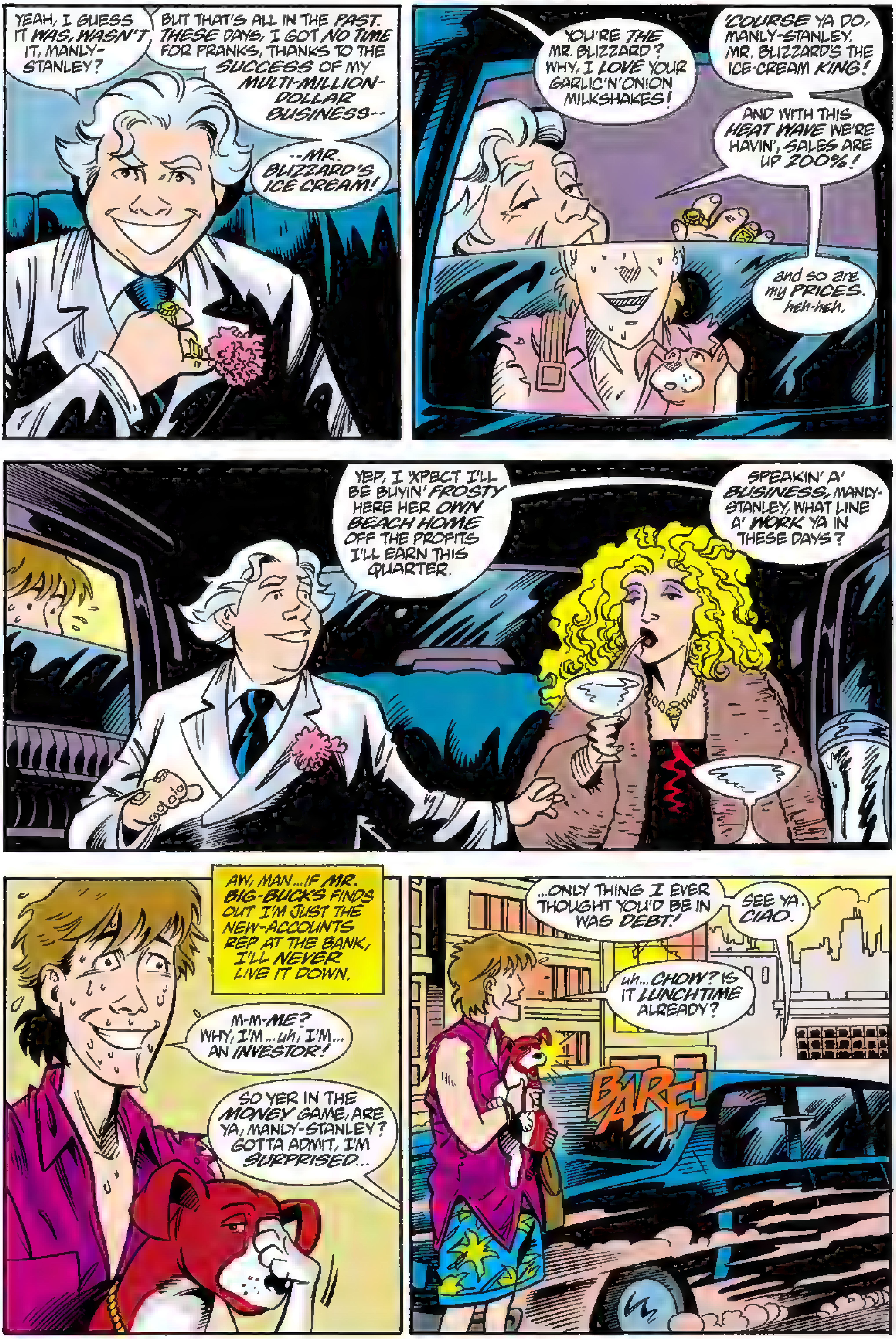

TIONAL
NK
MILO-- NO! NOT HERE, NOT NOW!
THE CITY'S GOT DOG-CURBING LAWS, AND THE FINES ARE MURDER!
YARP YARP
JUST A COUPLE MINUTES, LI'L BUDDY... WE'RE ALMOST AT LANDFILL PARK.
YARP
LANDF
DING-A-LING! DING-A-LING!
LOOK, MILO--ICE CREAM!
ARP
MR. BLI
ICE
ME! ME NEXT!
TWO SCOOPS OF TOFU, PLEASE.
GIMME A CHEDDAR MILKSHAKE!
FIVE BUCKS A SCOOP?! OUCH! ICE-CREAM PRICES HAVE RISEN AS FAST AS THE TEMPERATURE.
SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN ACTION, I GUESS. WITH A SPRINKLE OF GREED ON TOP.
MR. BLIZZA
E ICE CREAM
$5.00 Per Scoop!
$12.00 For Milkshakes!

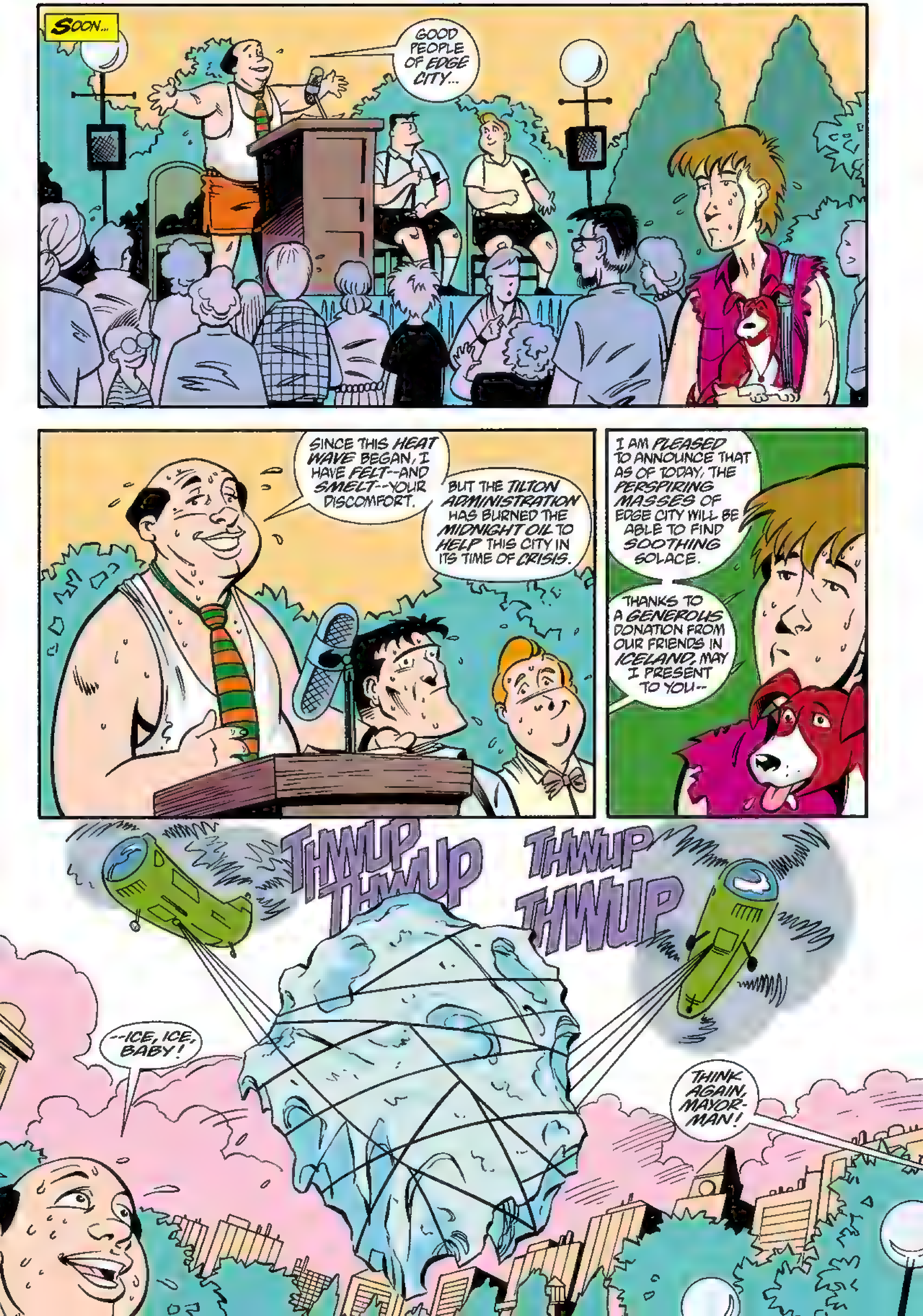

GET OUTTA MY WAY! I'M BURNIN' UP HERE!
SHUT UP, YOU PIG! I'VE GOTTA GET SOME ICE CREAM!
OH, MAN! THE HEAT'S GOT PEOPLE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS!
I WANT A CONE OF KIWI NOW!
C'MON, LADY! IT'S HOT OUT HERE!!
I'M DIPPING AS FAST AS I CAN--!
YARF
THIS IS GETTING WAY OUT OF CONTROL!
THIS ANCIENT MASK I FOUND--WHENEVER I WEAR IT, IT RELEASES MY INHIBITIONS AND GIVES ME THE WILDEST SUPER-POWERS.
AND IT USUALLY GETS ME INTO TROUBLE, BUT RIGHT NOW, I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
URRNST! BORGNYN!
ARP
NO DUMPING
NOOO!
COOL IT--!

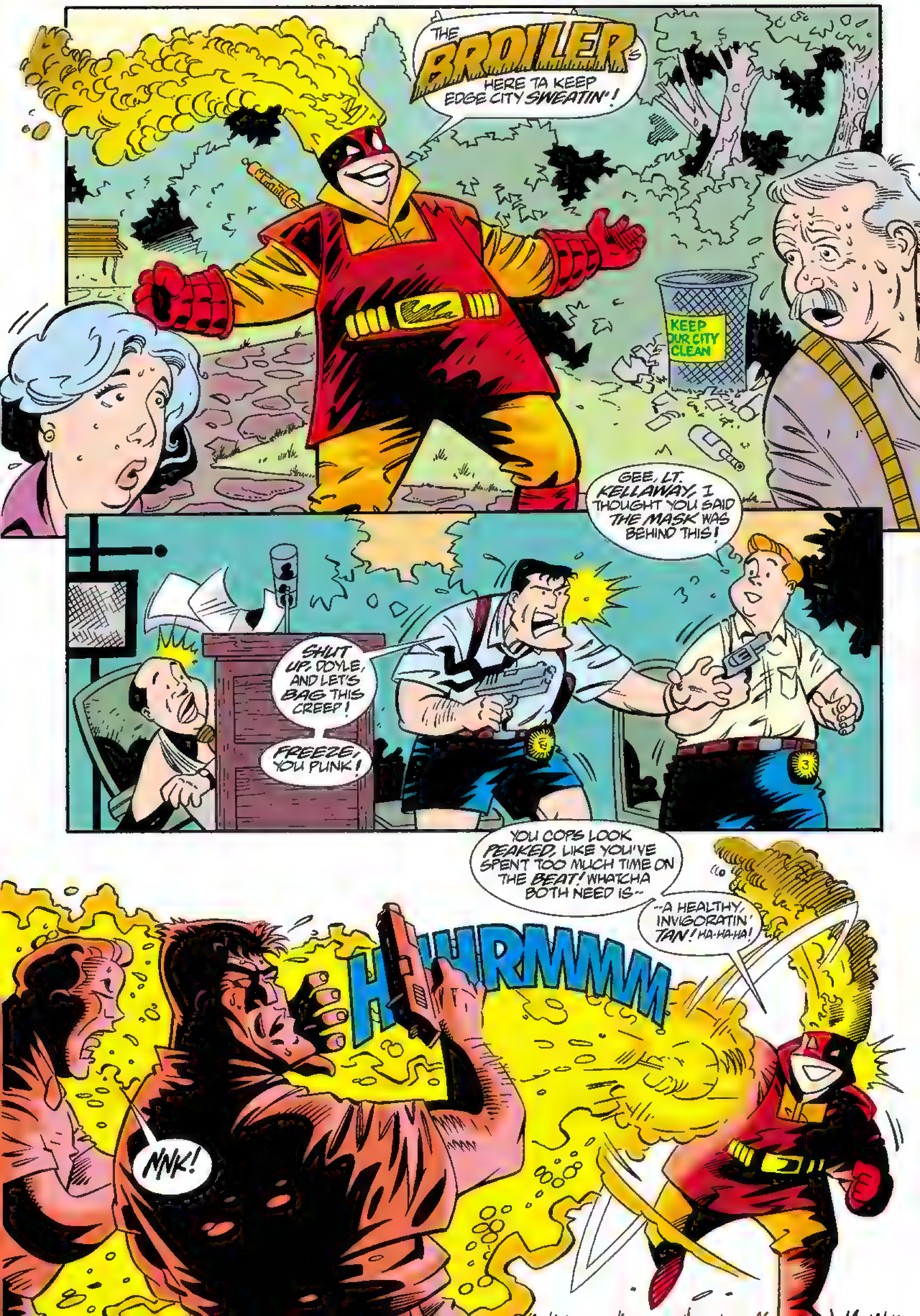
AND WHEN THE MASK SAYS, "COOL IT"--
--HE MEANS, "COOL IT"!! YOO-HOO-HOO!
SPLOOSH
GIBB!
I'M WET, BUT IT FEELS GREAT!
NO NEED TO THANK ME, CITIZEN...ALL IN A DAY'S WORK FOR A CONSCIENTIOUS SUPERHERO!
THANK YOU?!!!
YOU JUST COST ME A BUNCH OF CUSTOMERS!!

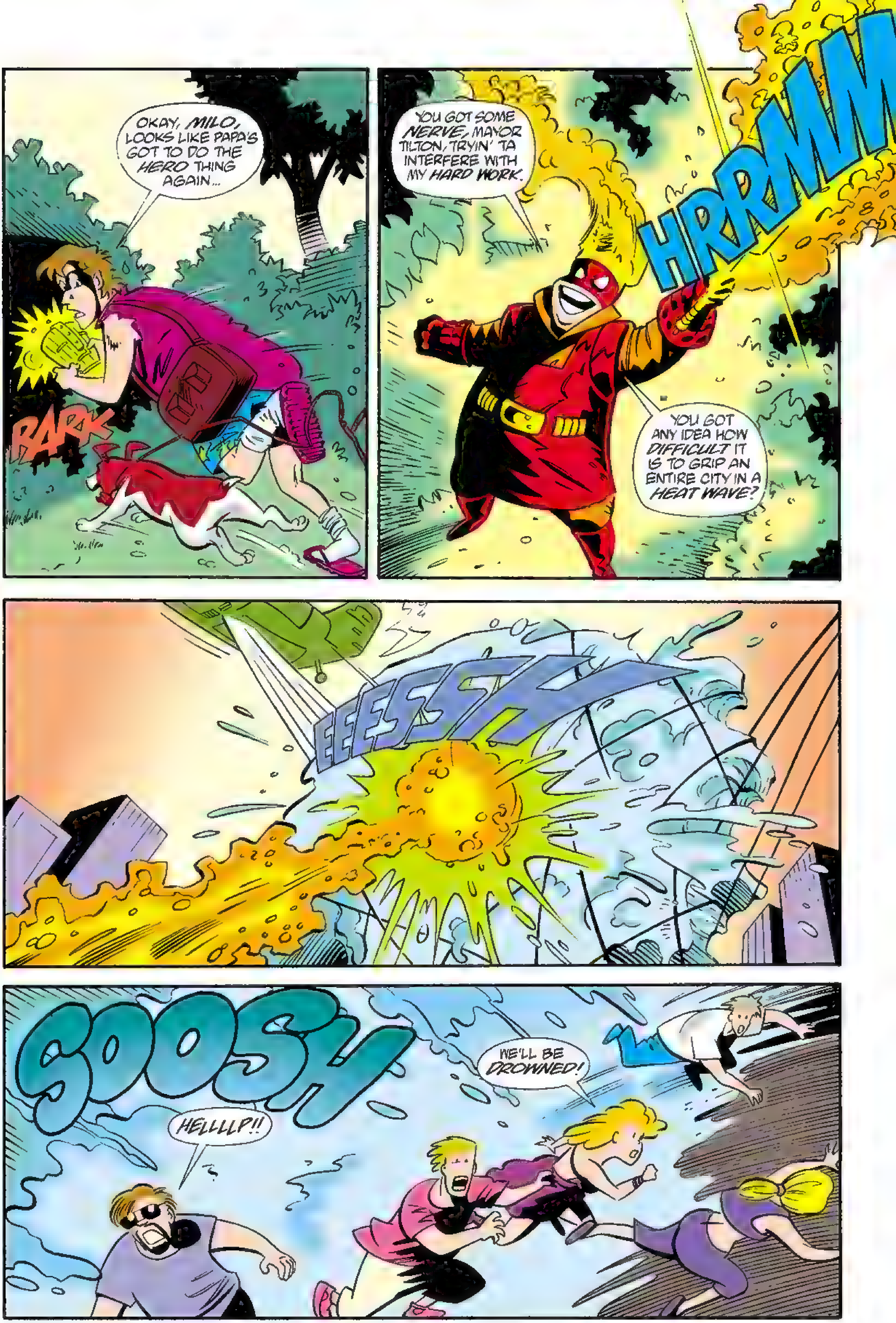

CITY HALL
GENTLEMEN, OUR MOTTO IS "KEEP EDGE CITY FLUFFY"--NOT STUFFY!
THIS HEAT WAVE IS DISABLING OUR CITY WITH ELECTRICAL BLACKOUTS, LOST TOURIST REVENUE, FIRES...
...NOT TO MENTION THE OVERWHELMING STENCH OF PERSPIRATION!
NOW, I'M DUE TO DELIVER A PUBLIC ADDRESS IN JUST THIRTY MINUTES, AND WHILE TEMPORARY RELIEF TO THIS HEAT IS ON ITS WAY...
...THE DENIZENS OF OUR FAIR METROPOLIS DESERVE A PERMANENT SOLUTION!
SCOTT, YOU'RE OUR LOCAL WEATHERMAN--ANY SIGN OF THIS HEAT LETTING UP?
EXCUSE ME, MAYOR TILTON, BUT I'M A CERTIFIED METEOROLOGIST, NOT A "WEATHERMAN"!
AND BEFORE I GET TO OUR FORECAST...
WEDG
...LESLIE OTTO RUMMEL OF SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA, IS CELEBRATING HIS 102nd BIRTHDAY TODAY.
THAT'S REAL NICE, MR. "CERTIFIED METEOROLOGIST"...
...BUT YOU SOUND LIKE A CERTIFIED LOONY TO ME.
THE CITY'S GOING TO BLAZES, AND YOU'RE BUSY SINGING HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
uh, ACTUALLY, LT. KELLAWAY, MR. SCOTT WASN'T SINGIN'--
DOYLE!
:gulp!:


THIS HOT SPELL IS EXTREMELY UNCANNY, FOLKS--I CAN FIND NO WEATHER PATTERN BEHIND IT...
...AND THE OTHER CITIES IN OUR AREA AREN'T BEING AFFECTED.
SO EDGE CITY'S BEING SINGLED OUT, eh...?
HEAT LIKE WE'RE HAVING ISN'T NATURAL!!
AND THE ONE GUY IN TOWN WHO'S UNNATURAL ENOUGH TO BE BEHIND THIS IS--
"--THE MASK!"
DOWN, MILO, DOWN!
ARF! ARF!
IPKISS? STANLEY IPKISS?
WHY, MANLY-STANLEY, IT IS YOU! 'S MATTER? DON'TCHA RECOGNIZE ME?
GARY BLIZZARD...? WOW! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE--
SINCE COLLEGE, PAL!
SAY, WE HAD SOME FUN BACK THEN, DIDN'T WE?
'MEMBER THE TIME WE FILLED THAT TRASHBAG WITH WATER AND DUMPED IT INTO THE DORM ROOM OF THAT SCHMUCK...?
OH, WHO WAS THAT GUY?
AH, THAT GUY WOULD BE ME.

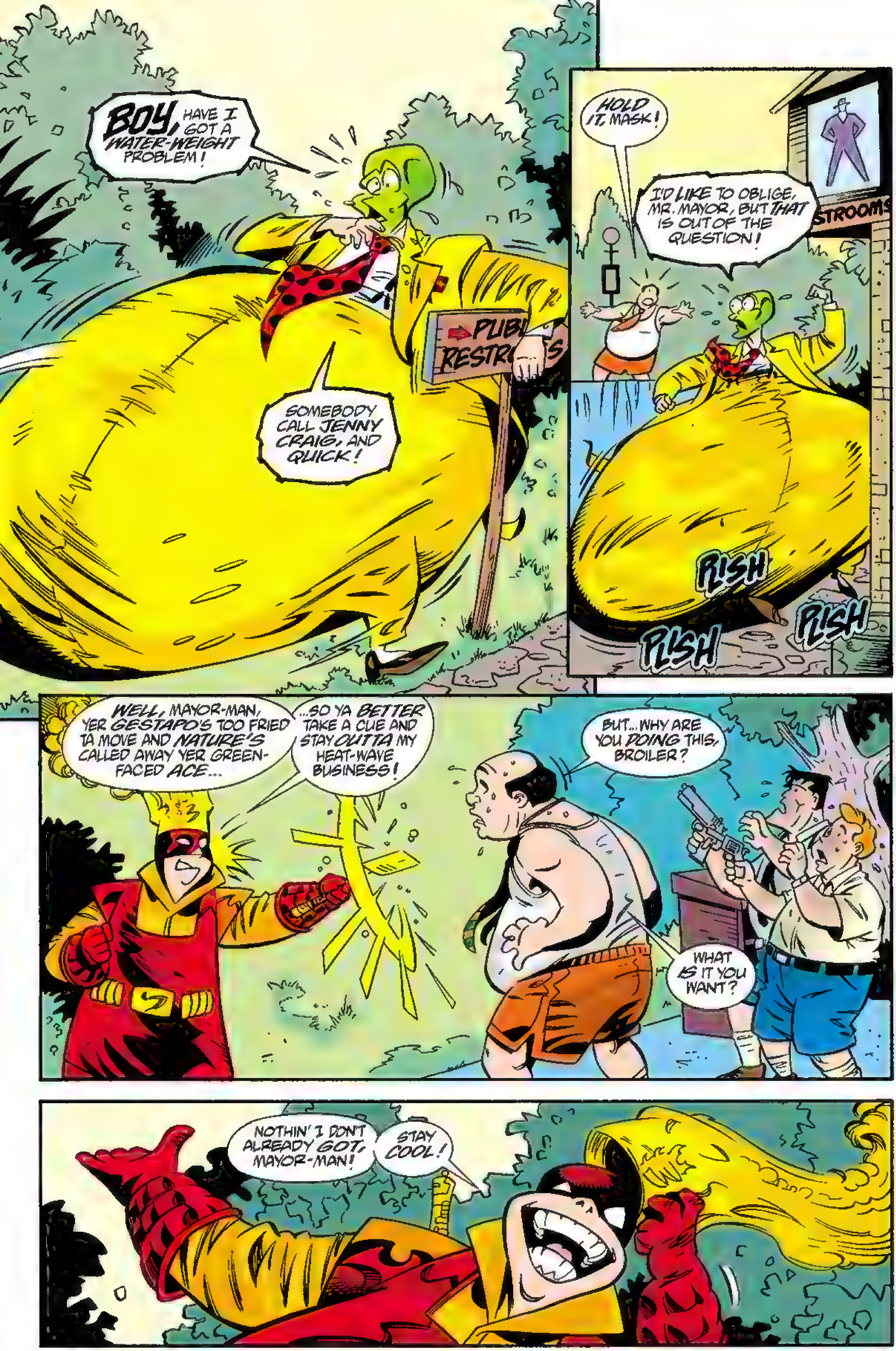

YEAH, I GUESS IT WAS, WASN'T IT, MANLY-STANLEY?
BUT THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST. THESE DAYS, I GOT NO TIME FOR PRANKS, THANKS TO THE SUCCESS OF MY MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS--
--MR. BLIZZARD'S ICE CREAM!
YOU'RE THE MR. BLIZZARD? WHY, I LOVE YOUR GARLIC'N'ONION MILKSHAKES!
'COURSE YA DO, MANLY-STANLEY. MR. BLIZZARD'S THE ICE-CREAM KING!
AND WITH THIS HEAT WAVE WE'RE HAVIN', SALES ARE UP 200%!
and so are my PRICES. heh-heh.
YEP, I 'XPECT I'LL BE BUYIN' FROSTY HERE HER OWN BEACH HOME OFF THE PROFITS I'LL EARN THIS QUARTER.
SPEAKIN' A' BUSINESS, MANLY-STANLEY, WHAT LINE A' WORK YA IN THESE DAYS?
AW, MAN... IF MR. BIG-BUCKS FINDS OUT I'M JUST THE NEW-ACCOUNTS REP AT THE BANK, I'LL NEVER LIVE IT DOWN.
M-M-ME? WHY, I'M... uh, I'M... AN INVESTOR!
SO YER IN THE MONEY GAME, ARE YA, MANLY-STANLEY? GOTTA ADMIT, I'M SURPRISED...
...ONLY THING I EVER THOUGHT YOU'D BE IN WAS DEBT!
SEE YA. CIAO.
uh... CHOW? IS IT LUNCHTIME ALREADY?
BARF!

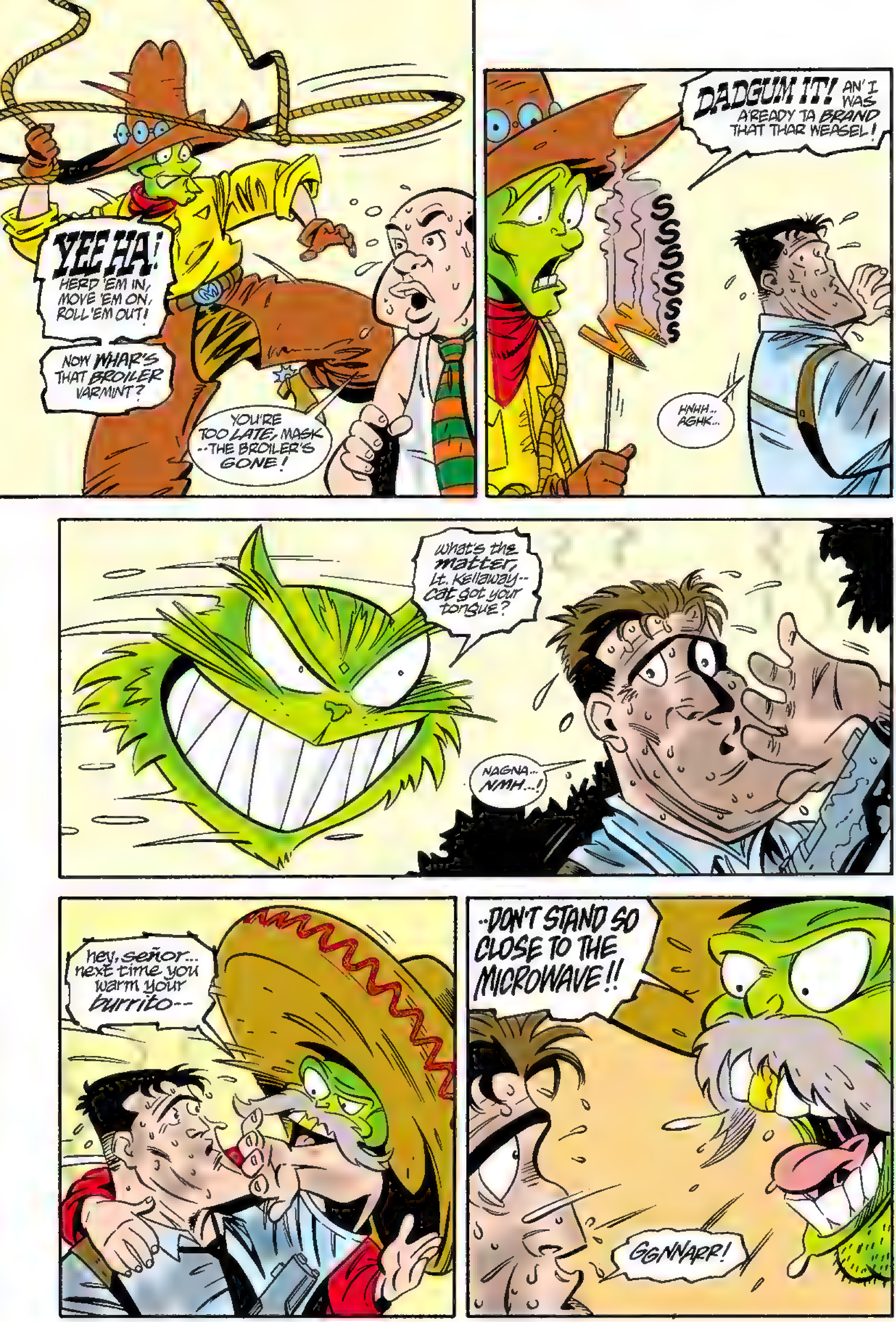

SOON...
GOOD PEOPLE OF EDGE CITY...
SINCE THIS HEAT WAVE BEGAN, I HAVE FELT--AND SMELT--YOUR DISCOMFORT.
BUT THE TILTON ADMINISTRATION HAS BURNED THE MIDNIGHT OIL TO HELP THIS CITY IN ITS TIME OF CRISIS.
I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT AS OF TODAY, THE PERSPIRING MASSES OF EDGE CITY WILL BE ABLE TO FIND SOOTHING SOLACE.
THANKS TO A GENEROUS DONATION FROM OUR FRIENDS IN ICELAND, MAY I PRESENT TO YOU--
THWUP THWUP
THWUP THWUP
--ICE, ICE, BABY!
THINK AGAIN, MAYOR-MAN!

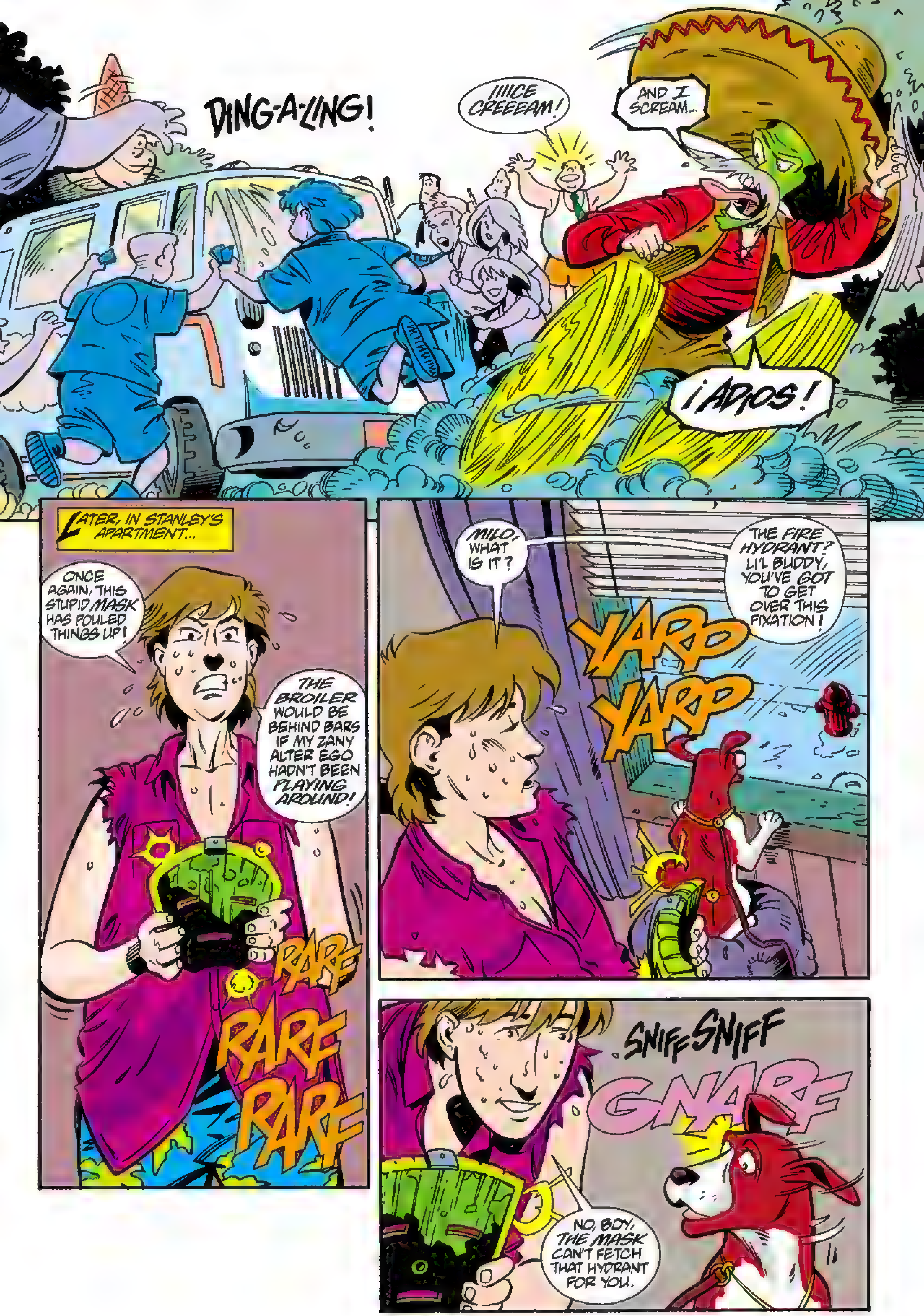

THE BROILER'S HERE TA KEEP EDGE CITY SWEATIN'!
KEEP OUR CITY CLEAN
GEE, LT. KELLAWAY, I THOUGHT YOU SAID THE MASK WAS BEHIND THIS!
SHUT UP, DOYLE, AND LET'S BAG THIS CREEP!
FREEZE, YOU PUNK!
YOU COPS LOOK PEAKED, LIKE YOU'VE SPENT TOO MUCH TIME ON THE BEAT! WHATCHA BOTH NEED IS--
--A HEALTHY, INVIGORATIN' TAN! HA-HA-HA!
HHRMMMM
NNK!

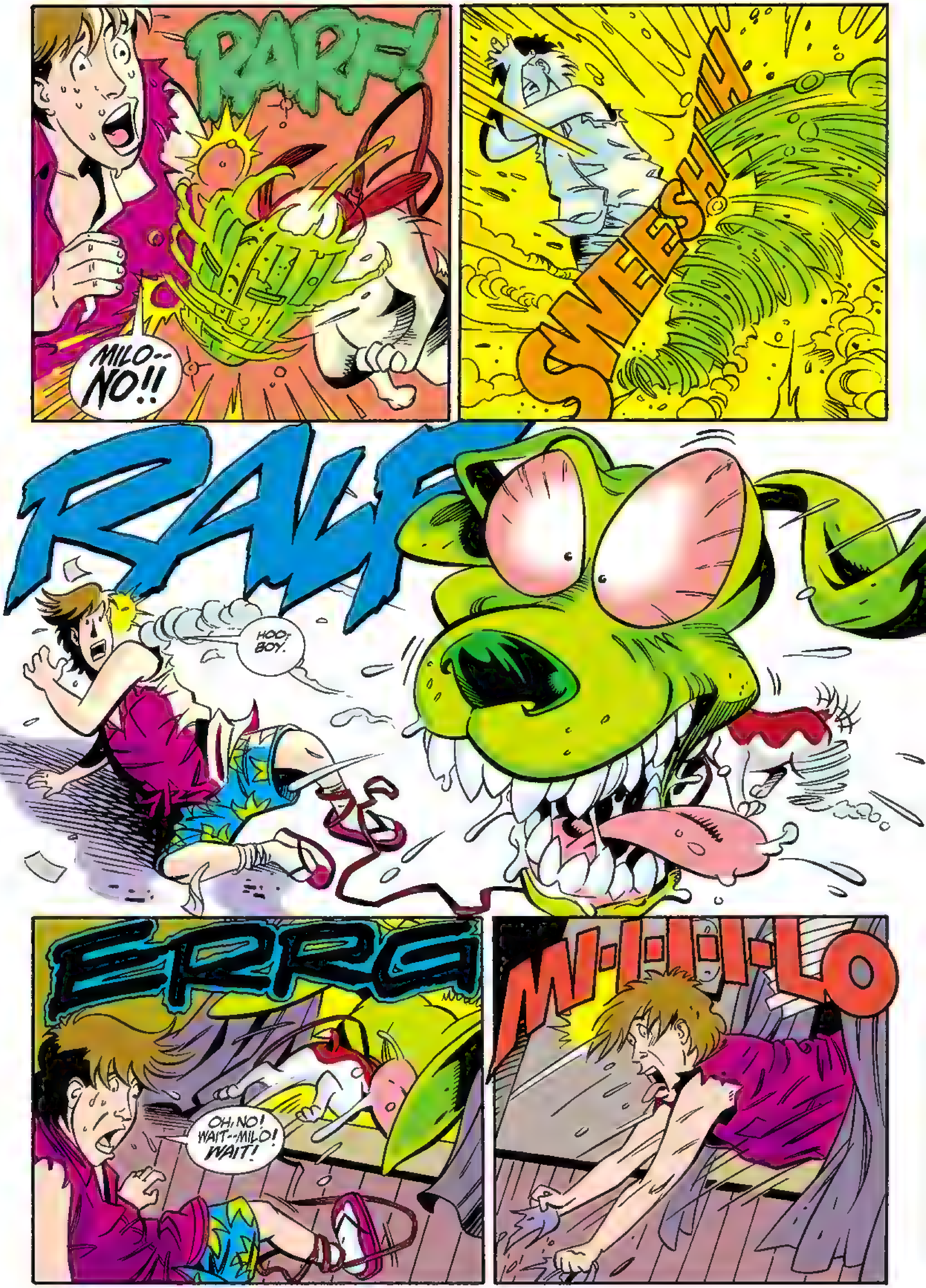

OKAY, MILO, LOOKS LIKE PAPA'S GOT TO DO THE HERO THING AGAIN...
RARK
YOU GOT SOME NERVE, MAYOR TILTON, TRYIN' TA INTERFERE WITH MY HARD WORK.
HRRMMM
YOU GOT ANY IDEA HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO GRIP AN ENTIRE CITY IN A HEAT WAVE?
EEESSSH
SOOSH
WE'LL BE DROWNED!
HELLLLP!!

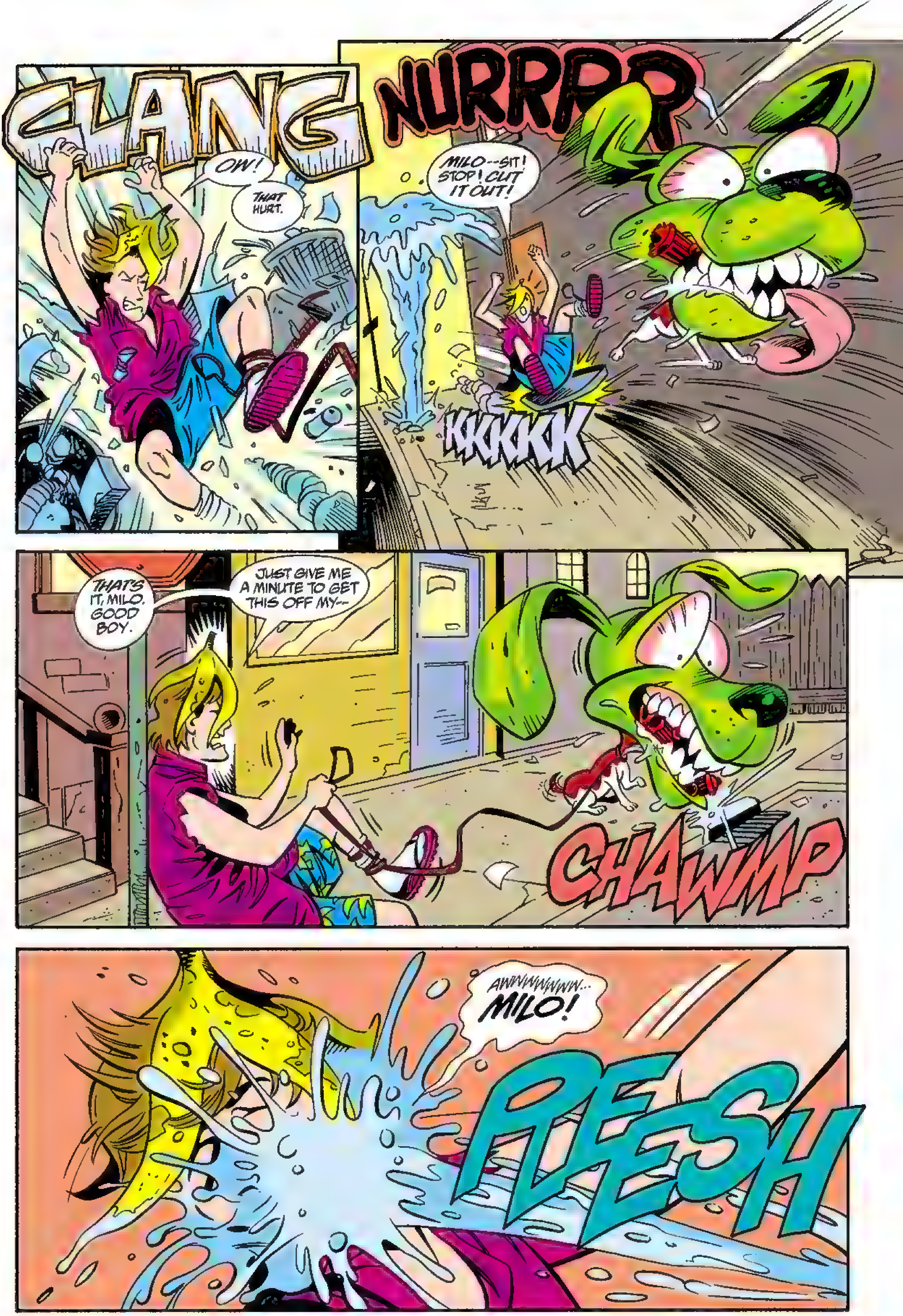
ZIIIP
A HOT SUMMER DAY SPELLS *PICNIC* IN *MY BOOK*, GANG!
WHO'S UP FOR A GAME OF VOLLEYBALL?
LOOSH
YOOEEEGAH!!
HOOOOSH
C'MON, THIRST-QUENCHERR-HITT ME, BABY!
PLOEESH
GLUG GLUG

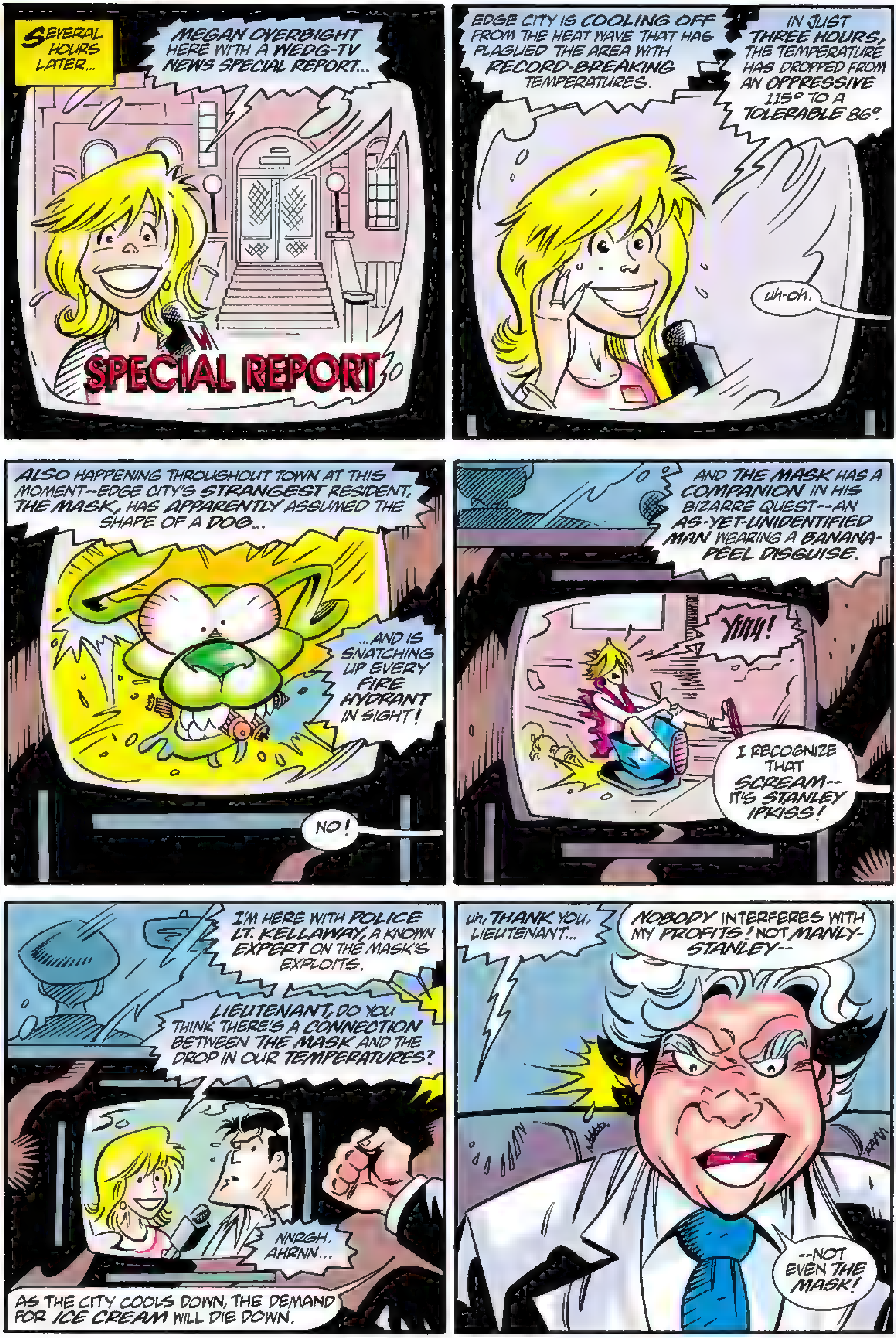

BOY, HAVE I GOT A WATER-WEIGHT PROBLEM!
SOMEBODY CALL JENNY CRAIG, AND QUICK!
PUBL RESTR S
HOLD IT, MASK!
I'D LIKE TO OBLIGE, MR. MAYOR, BUT THAT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION!
STROOMS
PLISH
PLISH
PLISH
WELL, MAYOR-MAN, YER GESTAPO'S TOO FRIED TA MOVE AND NATURE'S CALLED AWAY YER GREEN-FACED ACE...
...SO YA BETTER TAKE A CUE AND STAY OUTTA MY HEAT-WAVE BUSINESS!
BUT... WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, BROILER?
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
NOTHIN' I DON'T ALREADY GOT, MAYOR-MAN!
STAY COOL!

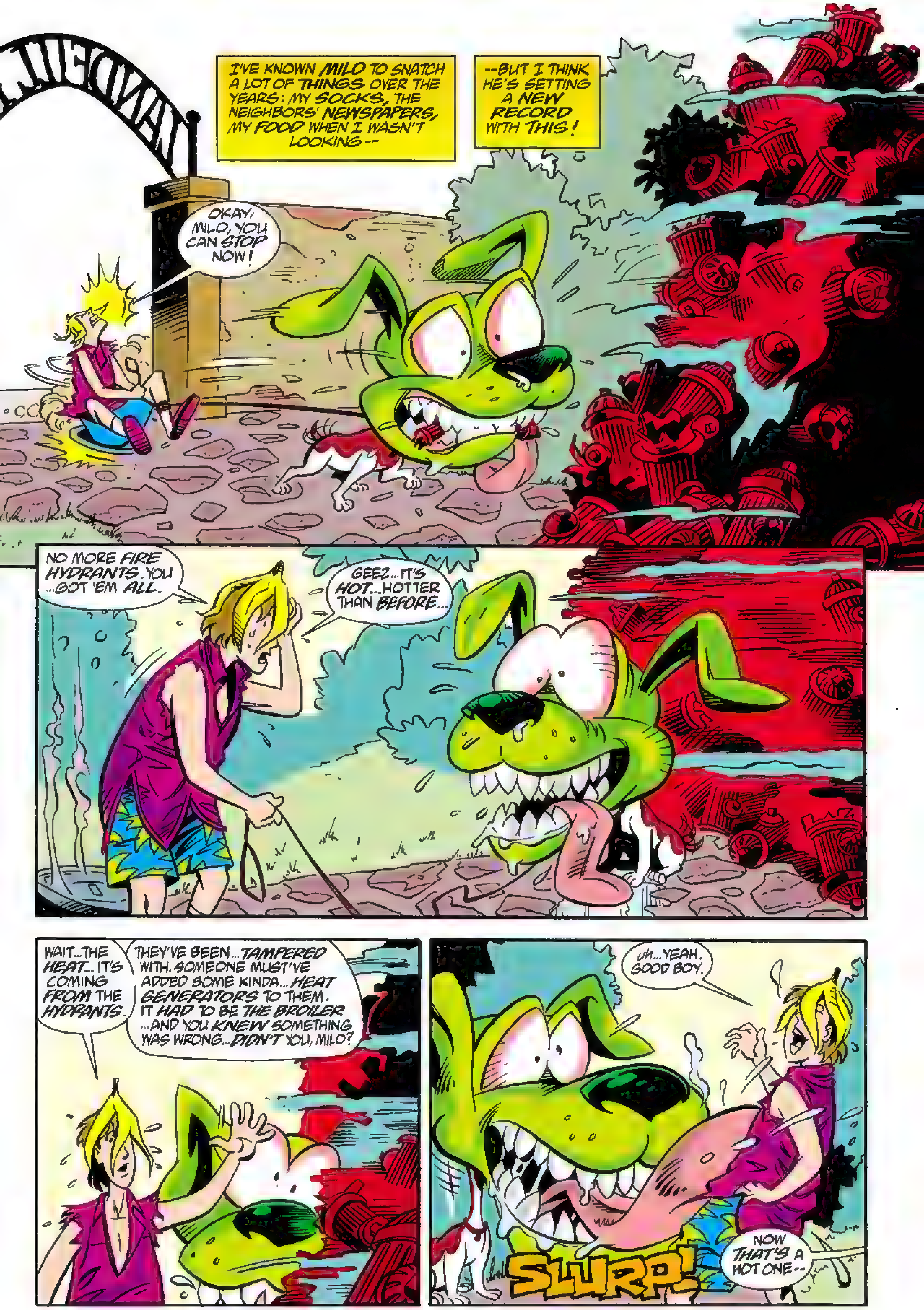

YEE HA! HERD 'EM IN, MOVE 'EM ON, ROLL 'EM OUT!
NOW WHAR'S THAT BROILER VARMINT?
YOU'RE TOO LATE, MASK --THE BROILER'S GONE!
DADGUM IT! AN' I WAS A'READY TA BRAND THAT THAR WEASEL!
SSSSSSS
HNHH.. AGHK..
what's the matter, Lt. Kellaway-- cat got your tongue?
NAGNA... NMH...!
hey, señor... next time you warm your burrito--
--DON'T STAND SO CLOSE TO THE MICROWAVE!!
GGNARR!


DING-A-LING!
IIIICE CREEEAM!
AND I SCREAM...
¡ADIOS!
LATER, IN STANLEY'S APARTMENT...
ONCE AGAIN, THIS STUPID MASK HAS FOULED THINGS UP!
THE BROILER WOULD BE BEHIND BARS IF MY ZANY ALTER EGO HADN'T BEEN PLAYING AROUND!
RARF RARF RARF
MILO, WHAT IS IT?
THE FIRE HYDRANT? LI'L BUDDY, YOU'VE GOT TO GET OVER THIS FIXATION!
YARP YARP
SNIFF SNIFF
GNARF
NO, BOY, THE MASK CAN'T FETCH THAT HYDRANT FOR YOU.


RARF!
MILO-- NO!!
SWEESHHH
RAWF
HOO BOY.
ERRG
OH, NO! WAIT--MILO! WAIT!
M-I-I-I-I-LO

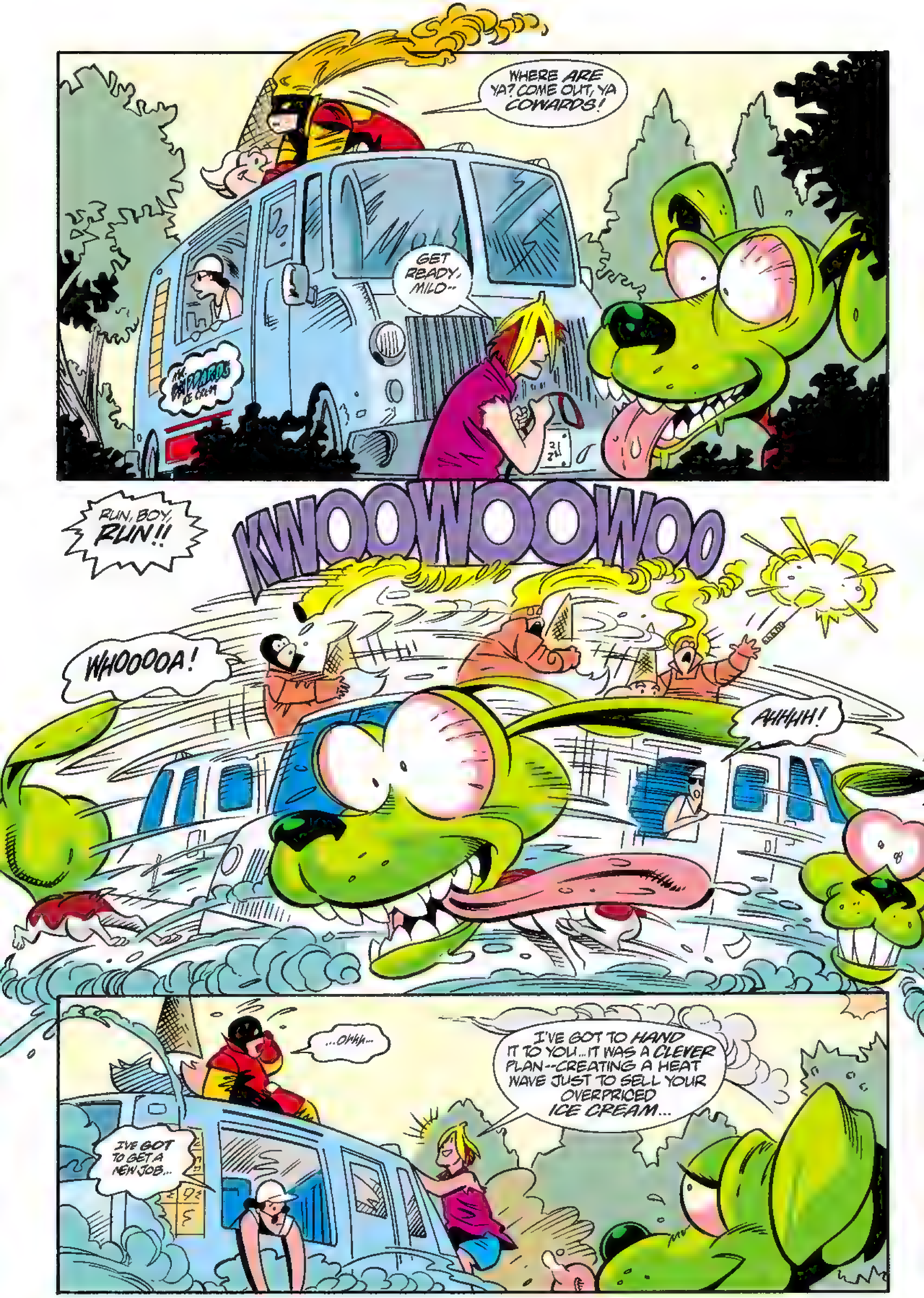

CLANG
OW!
THAT HURT.
NURRRR
MILO--SIT! STOP! CUT IT OUT!
KKKKKK
THAT'S IT, MILO. GOOD BOY.
JUST GIVE ME A MINUTE TO GET THIS OFF MY--
CHAWMP
AWWWWWWW... MILO!
PLEESH

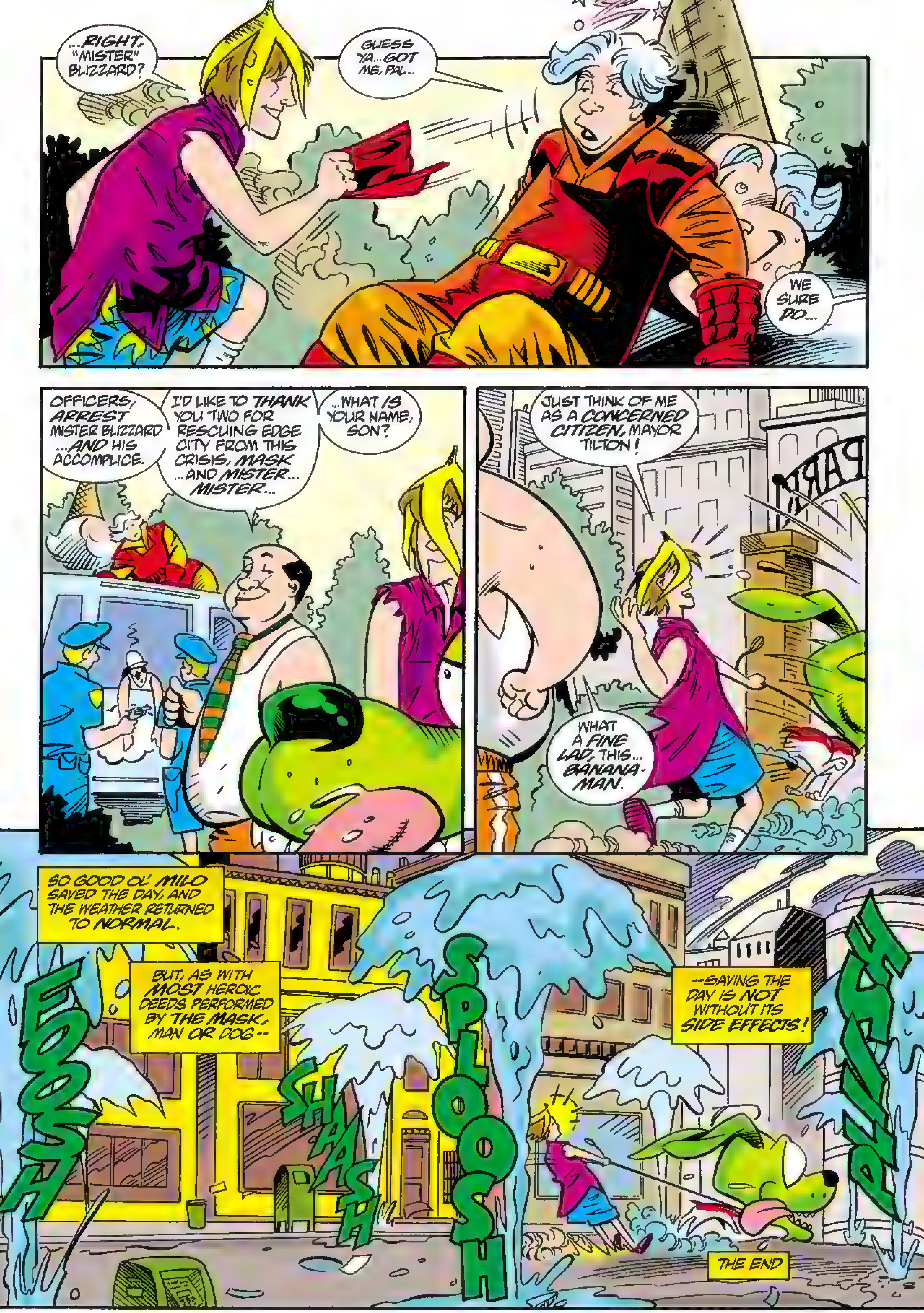

SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
MEGAN OVERBIGHT HERE WITH A WEDG-TV NEWS SPECIAL REPORT...
SPECIAL REPORT
EDGE CITY IS COOLING OFF FROM THE HEAT WAVE THAT HAS PLAGUED THE AREA WITH RECORD-BREAKING TEMPERATURES.
IN JUST THREE HOURS, THE TEMPERATURE HAS DROPPED FROM AN OPPRESSIVE 115° TO A TOLERABLE 86°.
uh-oh.
ALSO HAPPENING THROUGHOUT TOWN AT THIS MOMENT--EDGE CITY'S STRANGEST RESIDENT, THE MASK, HAS APPARENTLY ASSUMED THE SHAPE OF A DOG...
...AND IS SNATCHING UP EVERY FIRE HYDRANT IN SIGHT!
NO!
AND THE MASK HAS A COMPANION IN HIS BIZARRE QUEST--AN AS-YET-UNIDENTIFIED MAN WEARING A BANANA-PEEL DISGUISE.
YIII!
I RECOGNIZE THAT SCREAM--IT'S STANLEY IPKISS!
I'M HERE WITH POLICE LT. KELLAWAY, A KNOWN EXPERT ON THE MASK'S EXPLOITS.
LIEUTENANT, DO YOU THINK THERE'S A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE MASK AND THE DROP IN OUR TEMPERATURES?
NNRGH. AHRNN...
AS THE CITY COOLS DOWN, THE DEMAND FOR ICE CREAM WILL DIE DOWN.
uh, THANK YOU, LIEUTENANT...
NOBODY INTERFERES WITH MY PROFITS! NOT MANLY-STANLEY--
--NOT EVEN THE MASK!


I'VE KNOWN MILO TO SNATCH A LOT OF THINGS OVER THE YEARS: MY SOCKS, THE NEIGHBORS' NEWSPAPERS, MY FOOD WHEN I WASN'T LOOKING --
--BUT I THINK HE'S SETTING A NEW RECORD WITH THIS!
OKAY, MILO, YOU CAN STOP NOW!
NO MORE FIRE HYDRANTS. YOU ...GOT 'EM ALL.
GEEZ...IT'S HOT...HOTTER THAN BEFORE...
WAIT...THE HEAT...IT'S COMING FROM THE HYDRANTS.
THEY'VE BEEN...TAMPERED WITH. SOMEONE MUST'VE ADDED SOME KINDA...HEAT GENERATORS TO THEM. IT HAD TO BE THE BROILER ...AND YOU KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG...DIDN'T YOU, MILO?
Uh...YEAH. GOOD BOY.
SLURP!
NOW THAT'S A HOT ONE--

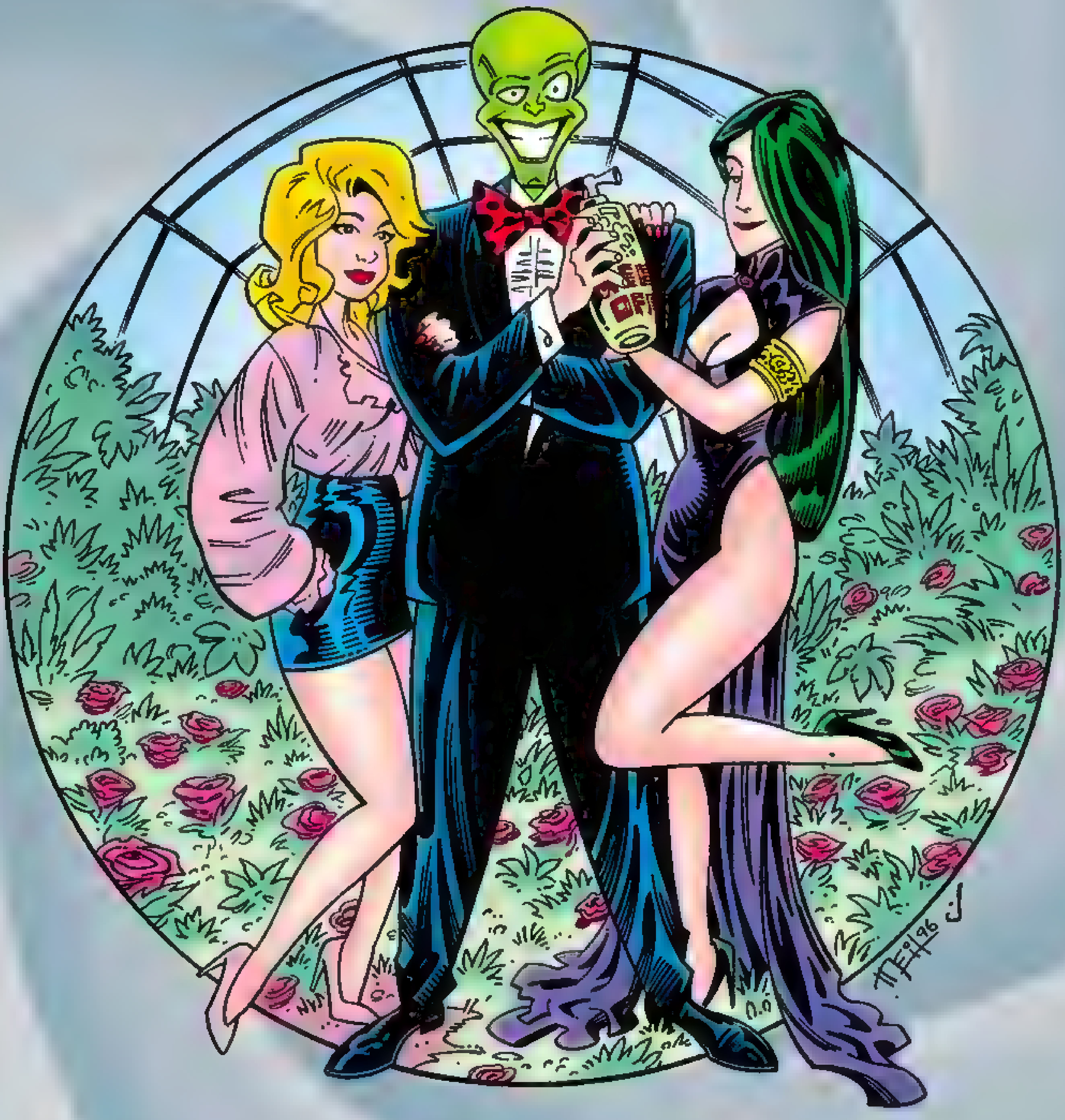
--THE MASK AND STANLEY IPKISS, SHARIN' A TENDER MOMENT!
THE BROILER? ON A MR. BLIZZARD TRUCK? AND HE KNOWS MY NAME? BUT HOW...?
DING-A-LING! DING-A-LING!
OF COURSE! IT ALL MAKES PERFECT SENSE...!
GRRAHRRR!!
PEE-YEW!! MILO, BUDDY, REMIND ME TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH WHEN WE GET HOME.
KURRG
DON'T KNOW WHY YER SO HUNG UP ON THIS DOG ACT, MASK...
...BUT MAYBE MY FRYIN' YER PAL MANLY-STANLEY'LL TAKE THE BITE OUTTA YA!
HRMMMMMMMMMM
ZOIKS!

SLLARP!
KK.
SLLLUP
YAAA!
PLUB!
BLORCH!
NO! THAT WAS S'POSED TA HIT IPKISS!
SPLOP
HRMMMMMM
MY HYDRANTS ARE MELTED --RUINED, 'CAUSE A' YOU TWO!
BAD MOVE. TICKED ME OFF. AND WHEN I GET MAD--
--THE BROILER BROILS!


WHERE ARE YA? COME OUT, YA COWARDS!
GET READY, MILO--
RUN, BOY, RUN!!
KWOOWOOWOO
WHOOOOA!
AHHHH!
...ohhh...
I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU...IT WAS A CLEVER PLAN--CREATING A HEAT WAVE JUST TO SELL YOUR OVERPRICED ICE CREAM...
I'VE GOT TO GET A NEW JOB...


...RIGHT, "MISTER" BLIZZARD?
GUESS YA... GOT ME, PAL...
WE SURE DO...
OFFICERS, ARREST MISTER BLIZZARD ...AND HIS ACCOMPLICE.
I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU TWO FOR RESCUING EDGE CITY FROM THIS CRISIS, MASK ...AND MISTER... MISTER...
...WHAT IS YOUR NAME, SON?
JUST THINK OF ME AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN, MAYOR TILTON!
PARK
WHAT A FINE LAD, THIS... BANANA-MAN.
SO GOOD OL' MILO SAVED THE DAY, AND THE WEATHER RETURNED TO NORMAL.
BUT, AS WITH MOST HEROIC DEEDS PERFORMED BY THE MASK, MAN OR DOG--
FOOSH
SHASH
SPLOOSH
--SAVING THE DAY IS NOT WITHOUT ITS SIDE EFFECTS!
PLISH
THE END

SHAKEN AND STIRRED



script
MICHAEL EURY

art
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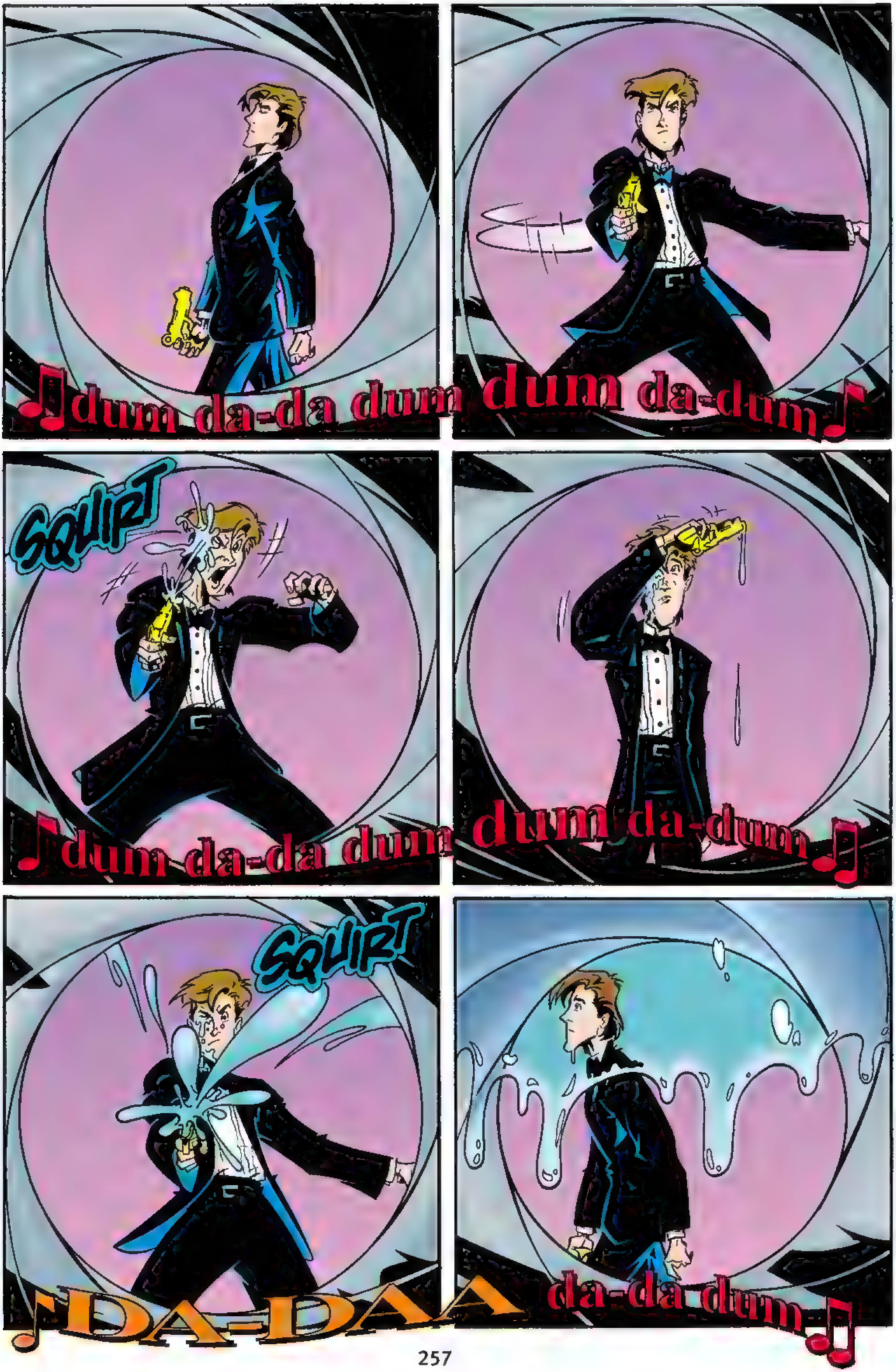
lettering
CLEM ROBINS

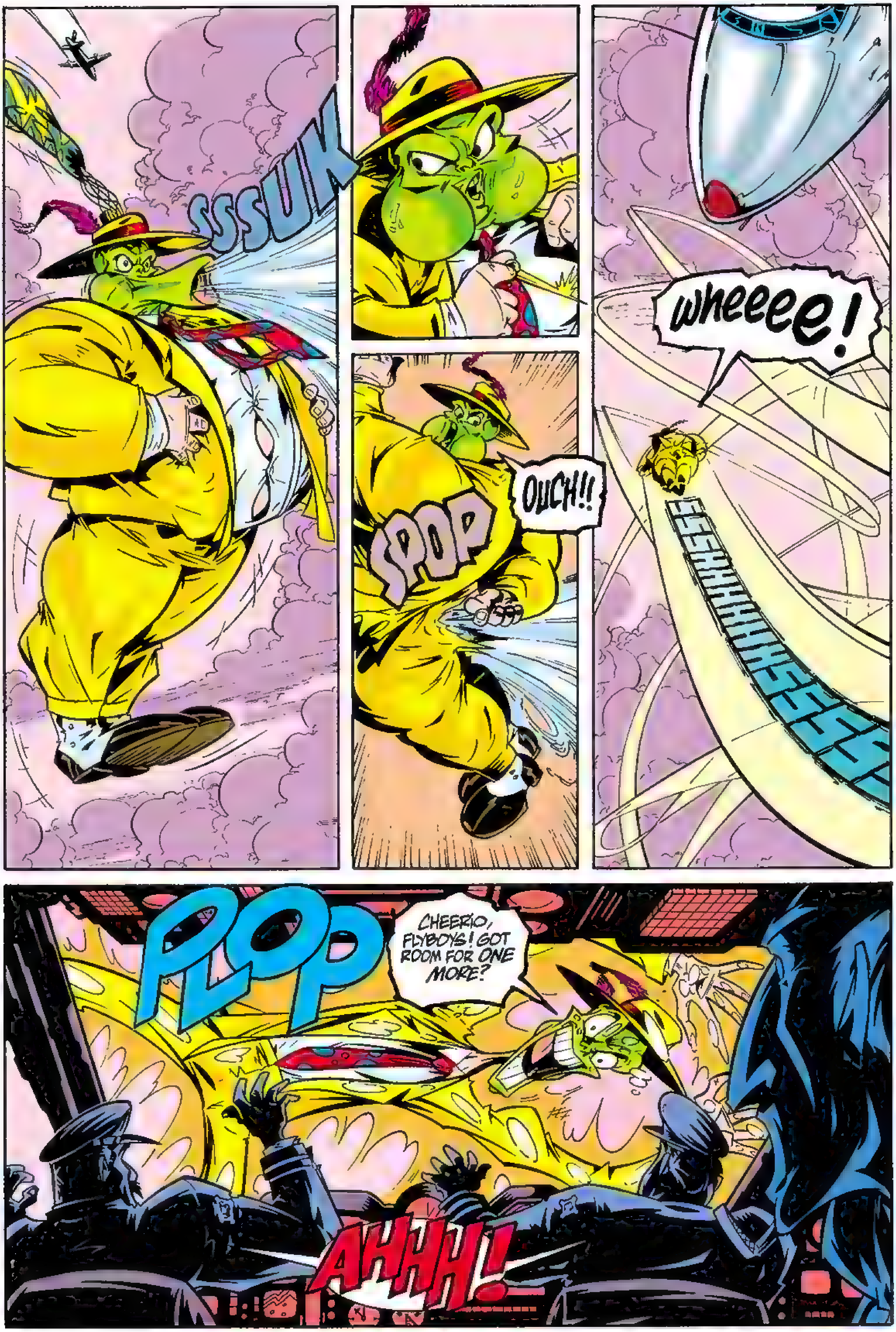
title illustration
NEIL VOKES and JAY GELDHOF


♫dum da-da dum dum da-dum♫
SQUIRT
♫dum da-da dum dum da-dum♫
SQUIRT
♪DA-DAA da-da dum♫

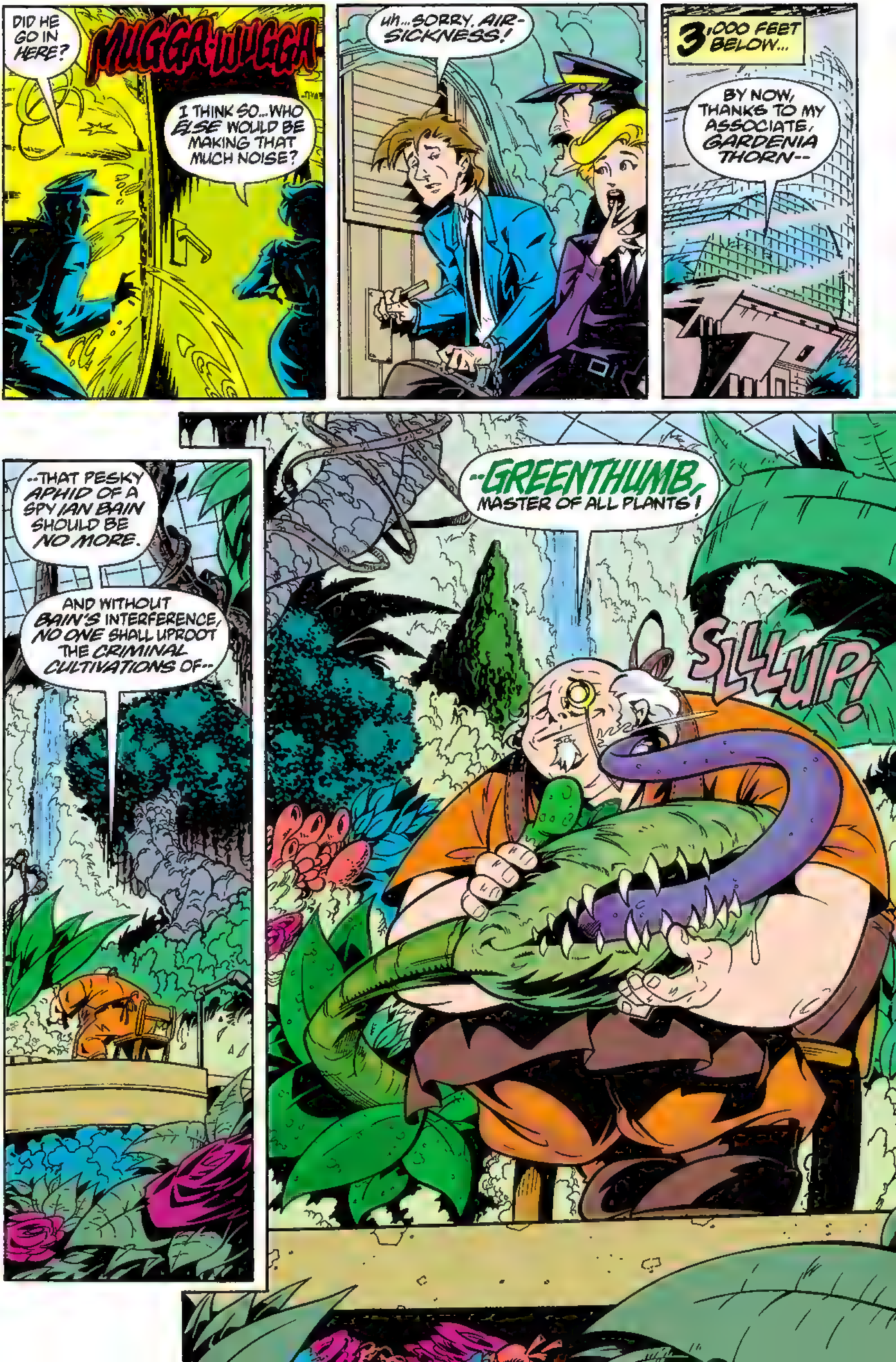
IPKISS. STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME, AND I'M HEADED TO ENGLAND.
U.K. AIRWAYS
MY BOSSES AT THE EDGE CITY BANK ARE SENDING ME TO LONDON TO CONDUCT AN IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL TRANSACTION.
GOOD THING I'M BONDED.
YES, I'M BLOODY CERTAIN IT'S HIM--
SHAKEN AND STIRRED

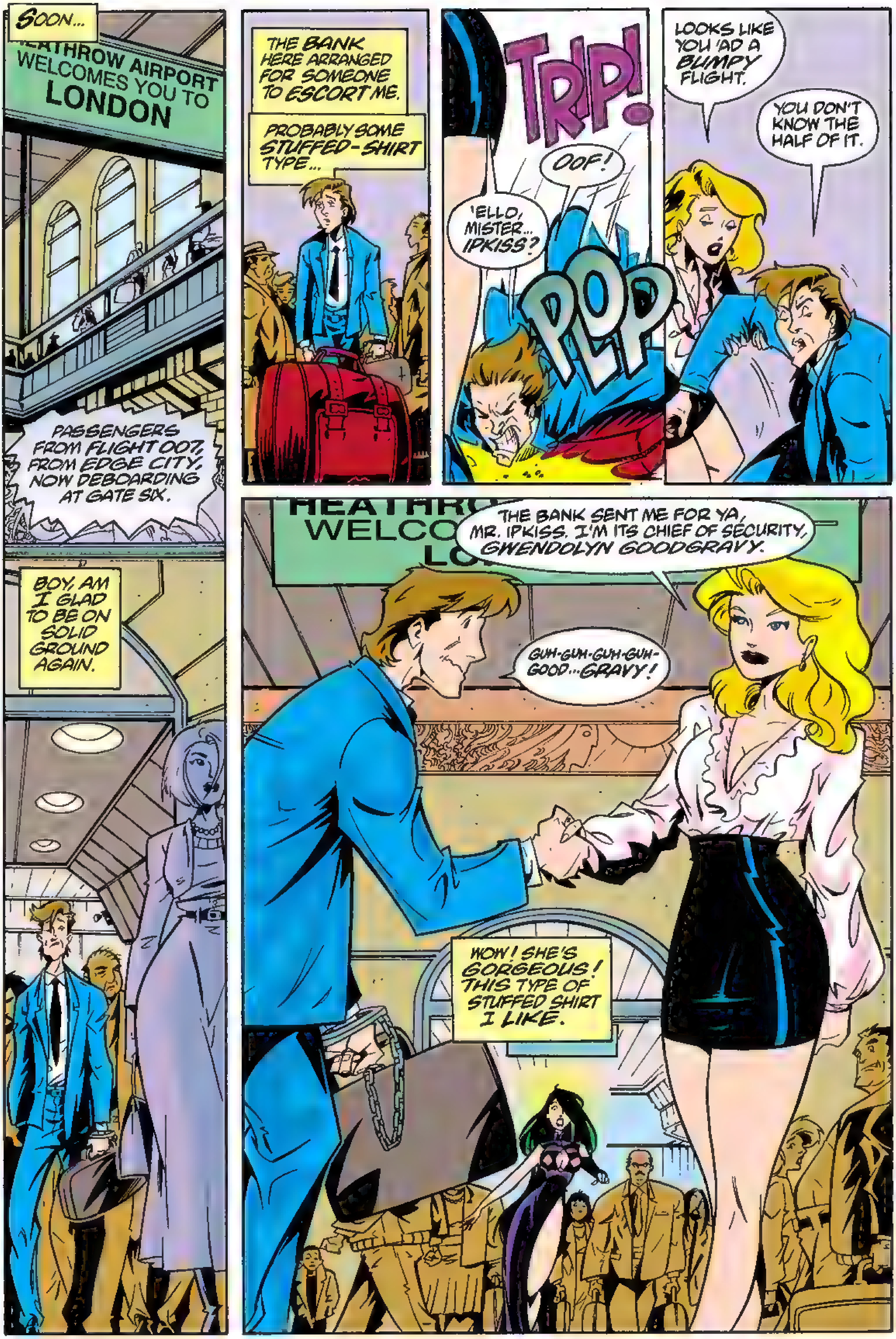
--AGENT 711, IAN BAIN, GRANTED PERMISSION TO PUMMEL BY HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE. I'M LOOKING AT HIS PHOTO FROM YOUR DOSSIER ON HIM.
I'D NO IDEA HE WAS ON THIS FLIGHT... PURELY A CHANCE ENCOUNTER.
YES, CONSIDER BAIN PRUNED. YOU CAN PLANT YOUR FAITH IN--
--GARDENIA THORN.
NUTS, SIR?
NO THANKS. I'M NOT HUNGRY...
I INSIST YOU TAKE THE NUTS, MR. BAIN...
MNFF!
...SEEING HOW THEY'RE YOUR LAST MEAL!
YYYYYYAAAAAAAA
PUNT!
FAREWELL, MR. BAIN! HA-HA-HA!

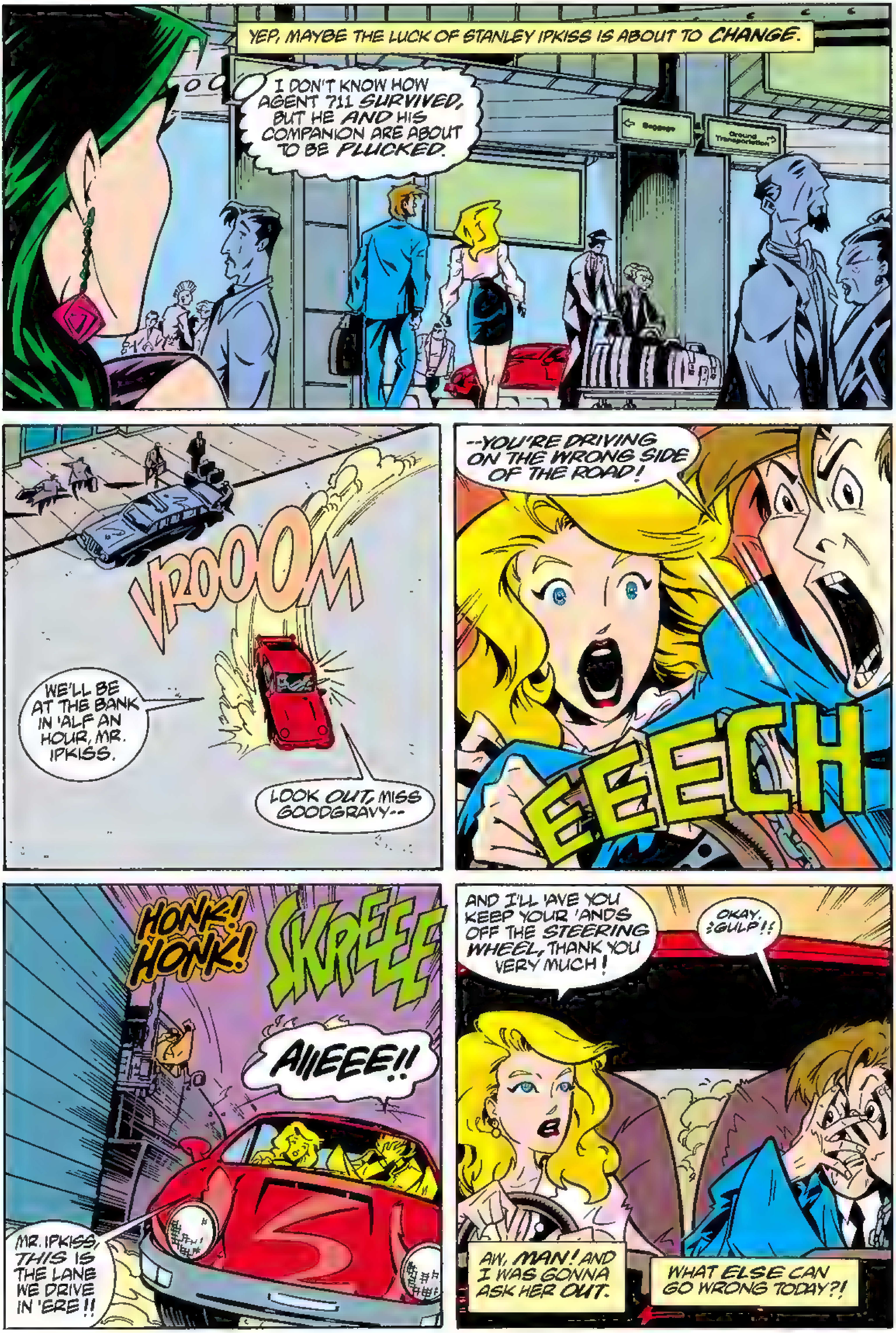
G-GOTTA PULL MYSELF TOGETHER... FIGHT THE F-F-FEAR... OR I'LL BE SMASHED **FLATTER** THAN A B-BUG ON A WINDSHIELD.
THE BANK CUFFED THIS **BRIEFCASE** TO ME SO THE DOCUMENTS I'M CARRYING WOULD BE **SAFE**.
I ALSO PACKED MY **MASK** INSIDE.
EVERY TIME I **WEAR** THIS THING, I'M TRANSFORMED INTO THE WORLD'S **GOOFIEST** SUPERHERO..
UGGAMUGGA!
SKREEEEEEEEEEEE
THERE'S **GOT** TO BE A **BETTER** WAY TO DEAL WITH AIRLINE **OVERBOOKING**!!

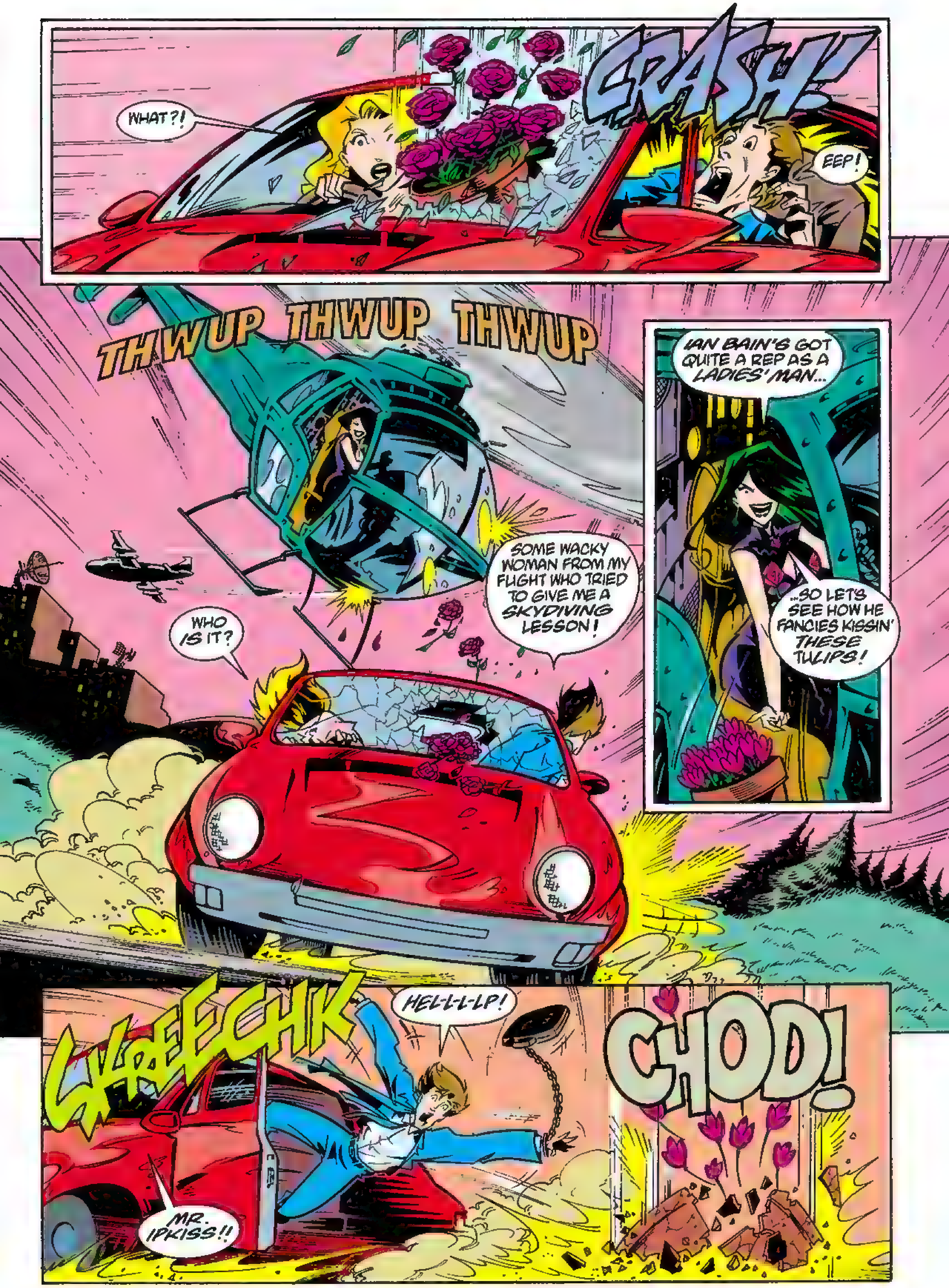

SSSUK
SPOP
OUCH!!
wheeeee!
SSSHHHHHHHHSSSS
PLOOP
CHEERIO, FLYBOYS! GOT ROOM FOR ONE MORE?
AHHH!

COFFEE, TEA...
SSSSS
...BIG BOOM?
N-NO...
KA-PLOOM!
SORRY, MISS, BUT SSMOKIN'--
--IS NOT ALLOWED ON THIS FLIGHT.
HEADS UP, PEOPLE! COMPLIMENTARY PEANUTS!
STOP, YOU MANIAC!

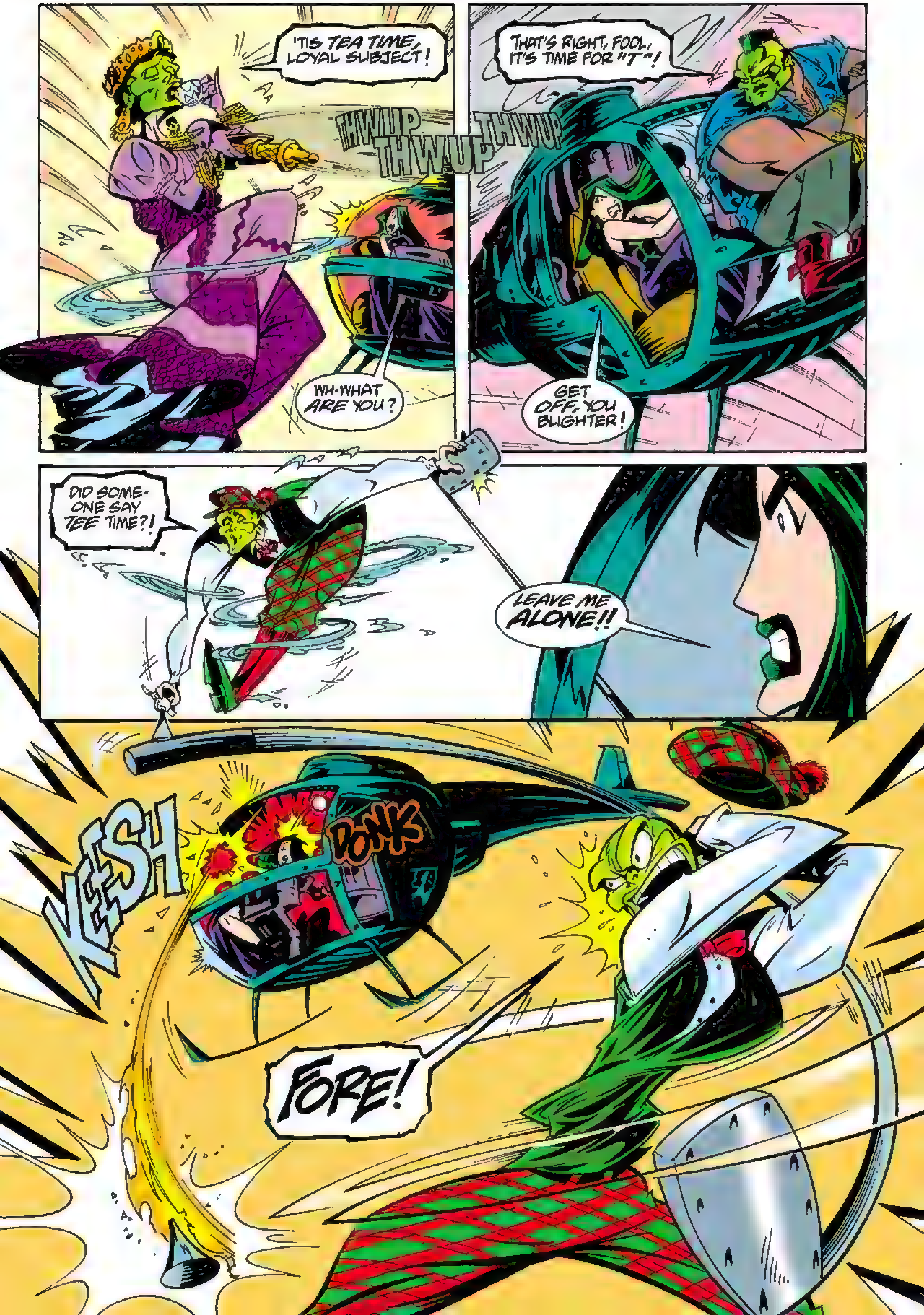

DID HE GO IN HERE?
MUGGA-WUGGA
I THINK SO...WHO ELSE WOULD BE MAKING THAT MUCH NOISE?
uh...SORRY. AIR-SICKNESS!
3,000 FEET BELOW...
BY NOW, THANKS TO MY ASSOCIATE, GARDENIA THORN--
--THAT PESKY APHID OF A SPY IAN BAIN SHOULD BE NO MORE.
AND WITHOUT BAIN'S INTERFERENCE, NO ONE SHALL UPROOT THE CRIMINAL CULTIVATIONS OF--
--GREENTHUMB, MASTER OF ALL PLANTS!
SLLLUP!

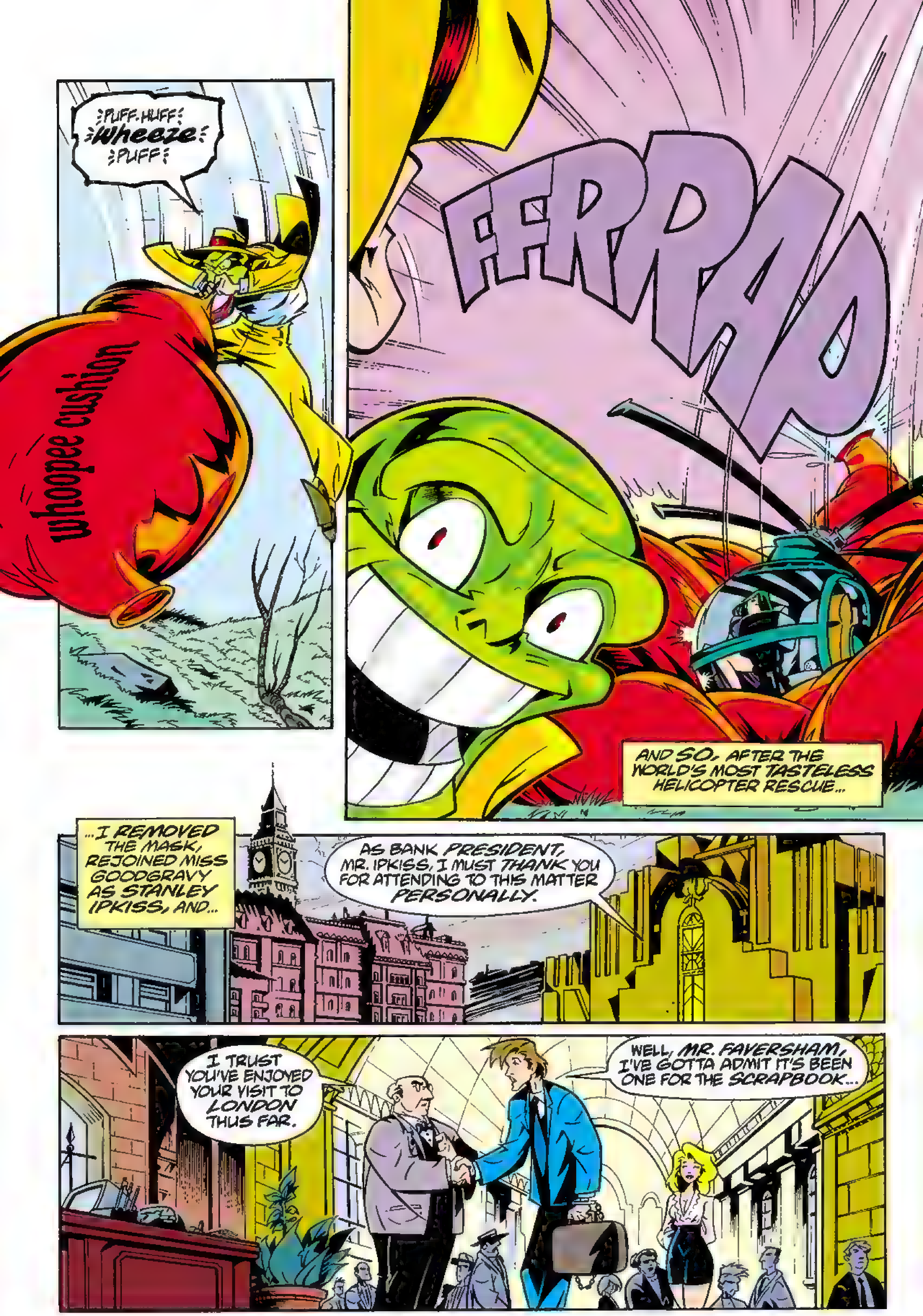

SOON...
HEATHROW AIRPORT WELCOMES YOU TO LONDON
PASSENGERS FROM FLIGHT 007, FROM EDGE CITY, NOW DEBOARDING AT GATE SIX.
THE BANK HERE ARRANGED FOR SOMEONE TO ESCORT ME.
PROBABLY SOME STUFFED-SHIRT TYPE...
TRIP!
OOF!
'ELLO, MISTER... IPKISS?
POP
LOOKS LIKE YOU 'AD A BUMPY FLIGHT.
YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT.
BOY, AM I GLAD TO BE ON SOLID GROUND AGAIN.
HEATHRO WELCO LO
THE BANK SENT ME FOR YA, MR. IPKISS. I'M ITS CHIEF OF SECURITY, GWENDOLYN GOODGRAVY.
GUH-GUH-GUH-GUH-GOOD...GRAVY!
WOW! SHE'S GORGEOUS! THIS TYPE OF STUFFED SHIRT I LIKE.

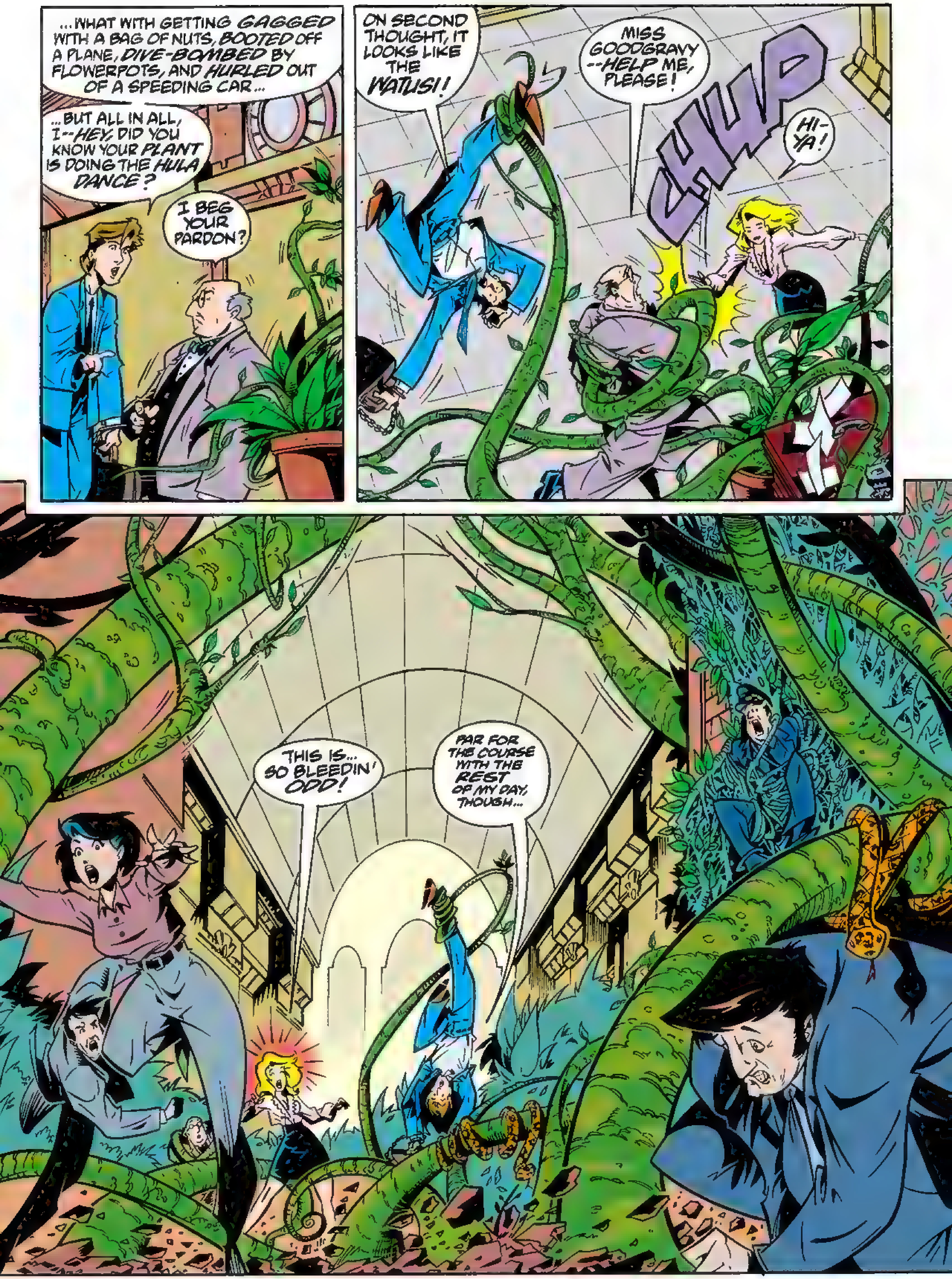

YEP, MAYBE THE LUCK OF STANLEY IPKISS IS ABOUT TO CHANGE.
I DON'T KNOW HOW AGENT 711 SURVIVED, BUT HE AND HIS COMPANION ARE ABOUT TO BE PLUCKED.
Baggage
Ground Transportation
VROOOM
WE'LL BE AT THE BANK IN 'ALF AN HOUR, MR. IPKISS.
LOOK OUT, MISS GOODGRAVY--
--YOU'RE DRIVING ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD!
EEECH
HONK! HONK!
SKREEE
AIIEEE!!
MR. IPKISS, THIS IS THE LANE WE DRIVE IN 'ERE!!
AND I'LL 'AVE YOU KEEP YOUR 'ANDS OFF THE STEERING WHEEL, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
OKAY. GULP!!
AW, MAN! AND I WAS GONNA ASK HER OUT.
WHAT ELSE CAN GO WRONG TODAY?!


WHAT?!
CRASH!
EEP!
THWUP THWUP THWUP
WHO IS IT?
SOME WACKY WOMAN FROM MY FLIGHT WHO TRIED TO GIVE ME A SKYDIVING LESSON!
IAN BAIN'S GOT QUITE A REP AS A LADIES' MAN...
...SO LET'S SEE HOW HE FANCIES KISSIN' THESE TULIPS!
SKREECHK
HEL-L-L-LP!
CHOD!
MR. IPKISS!!

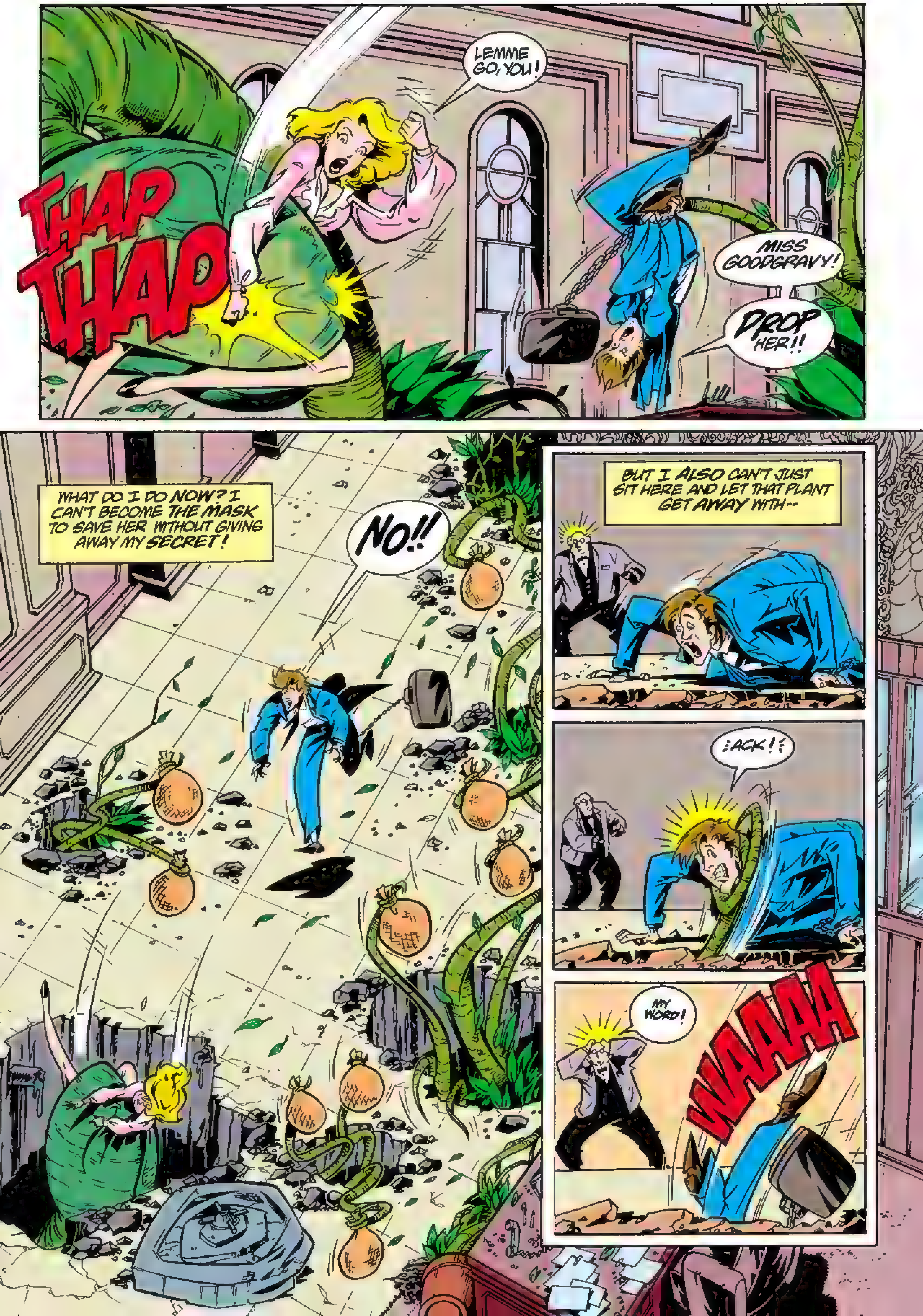
THIS IS MY LAST BUSINESS TRIP--
--EVER!
ALL RIGHT, CABBAGE HAIR, YOU ASKED FOR IT...
THIS'LL STOP THAT... WHAT TH' BLOODY--?
FRRAPP
YAHHH!
SPROING

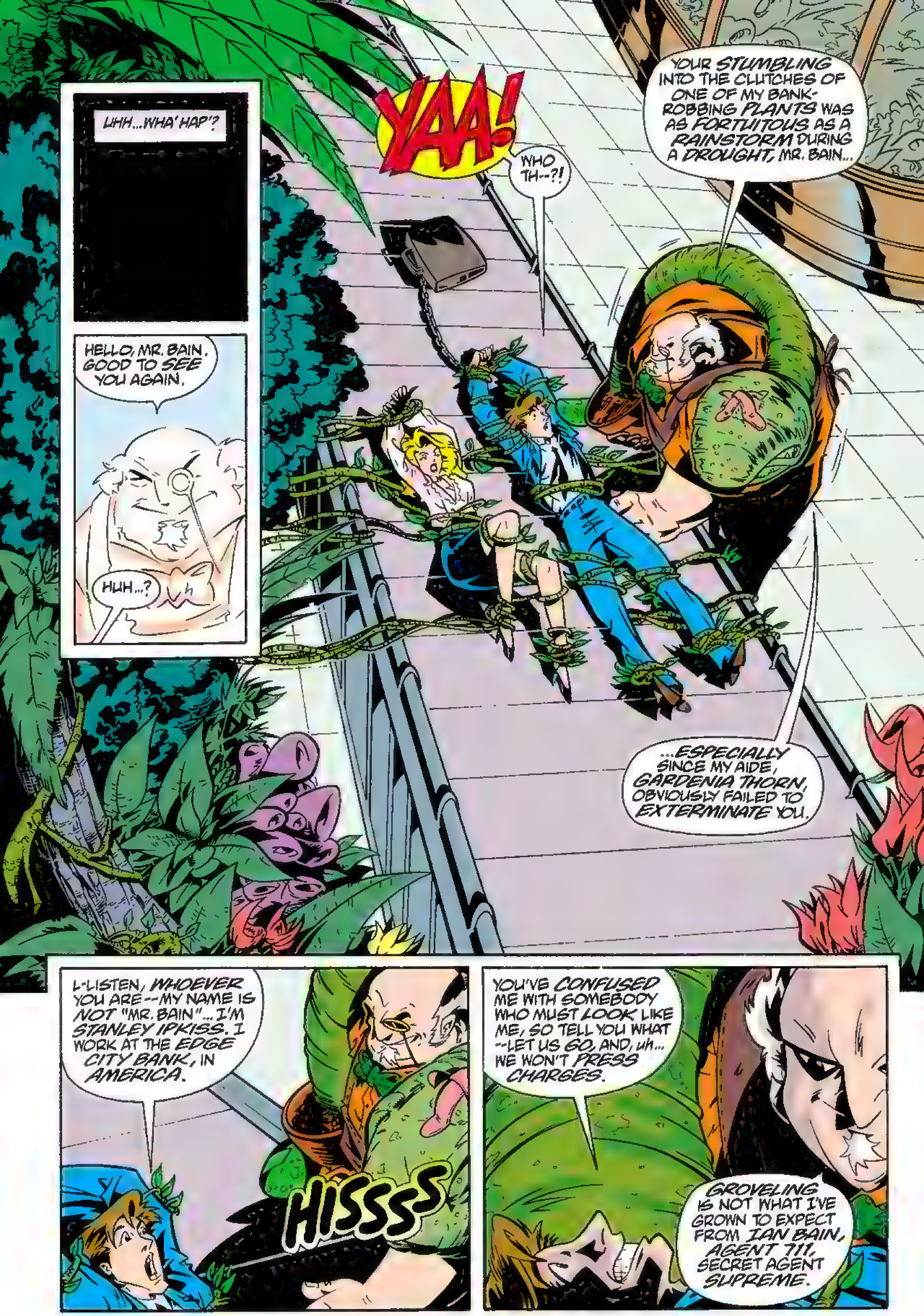

'TIS TEA TIME, LOYAL SUBJECT!
THWUP THWUP THWUP
WH-WHAT ARE YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT, FOOL, IT'S TIME FOR "T"!
GET OFF, YOU BLIGHTER!
DID SOMEONE SAY TEE TIME?!
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
KEESH
DONK
FORE!

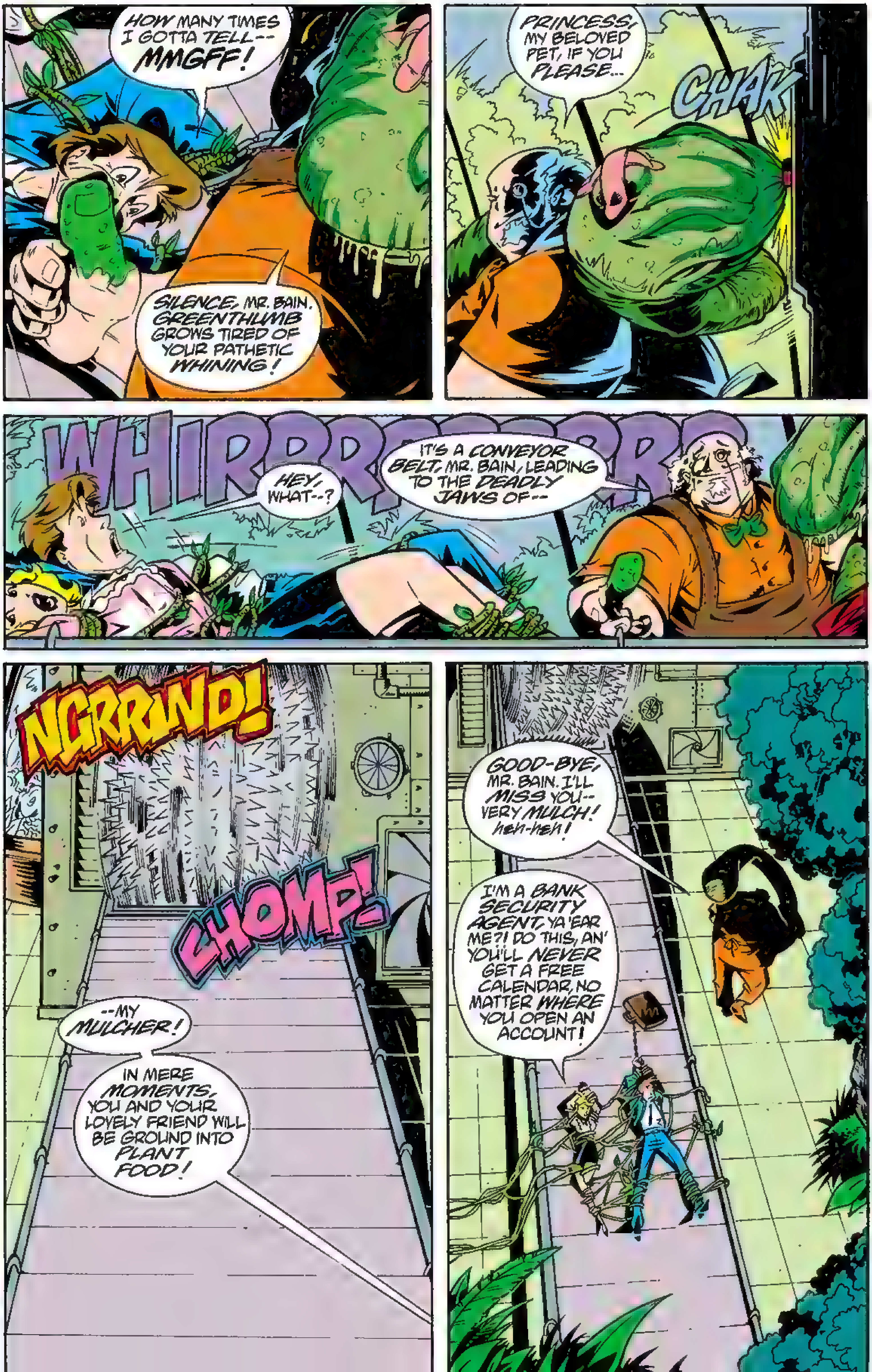

PUFF. HUFF
Wheeze
PUFF
whoopee cushion
FFRRAP
AND SO, AFTER THE WORLD'S MOST TASTELESS HELICOPTER RESCUE...
...I REMOVED THE MASK, REJOINED MISS GOODGRAVY AS STANLEY IPKISS, AND...
AS BANK PRESIDENT, MR. IPKISS, I MUST THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING TO THIS MATTER PERSONALLY.
I TRUST YOU'VE ENJOYED YOUR VISIT TO LONDON THUS FAR.
WELL, MR. FAVERSHAM, I'VE GOTTA ADMIT IT'S BEEN ONE FOR THE SCRAPBOOK...

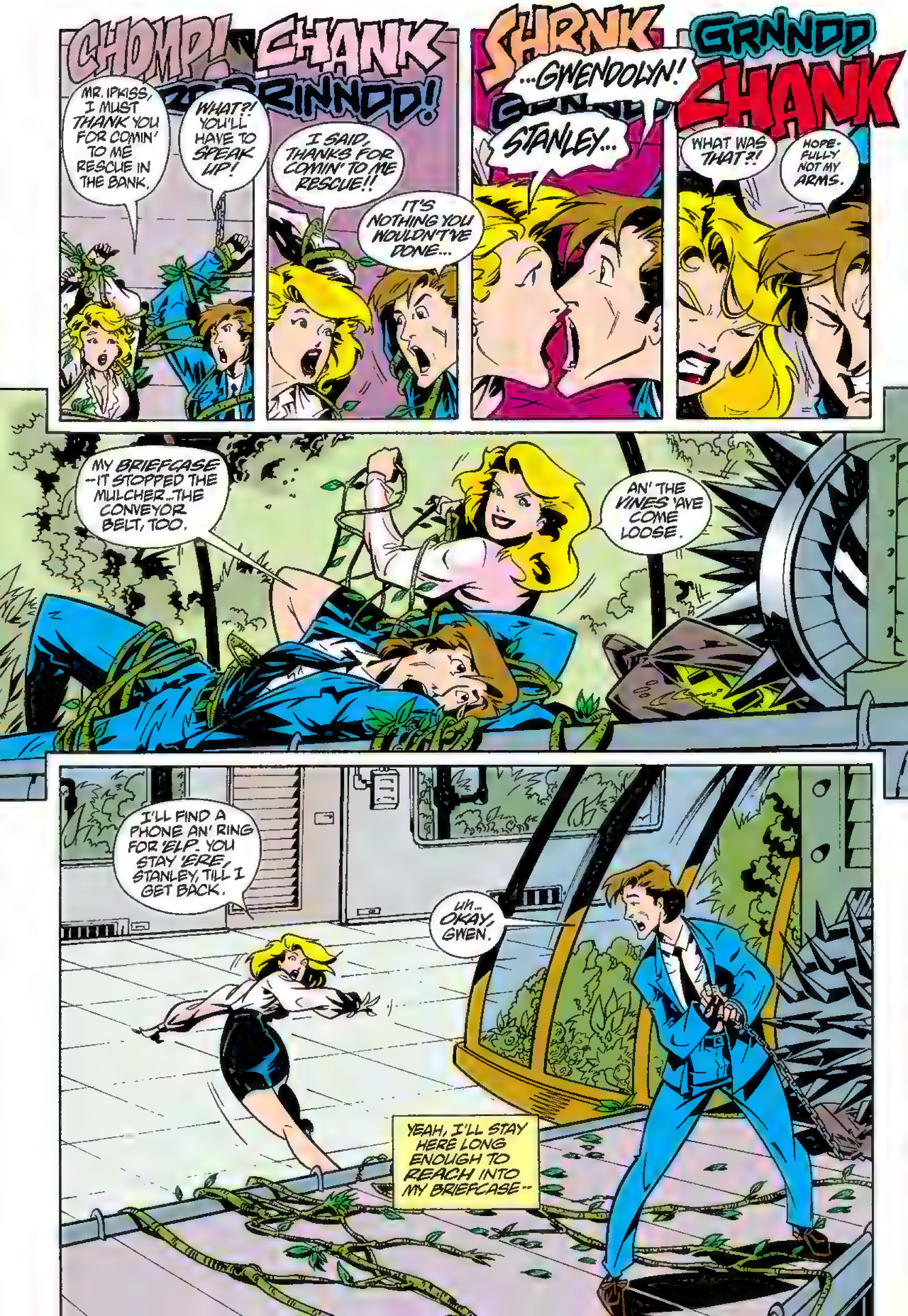

...WHAT WITH GETTING GAGGED WITH A BAG OF NUTS, BOOTED OFF A PLANE, DIVE-BOMBED BY FLOWERPOTS, AND HURLED OUT OF A SPEEDING CAR...
...BUT ALL IN ALL, I--HEY, DID YOU KNOW YOUR PLANT IS DOING THE HULA DANCE?
I BEG YOUR PARDON?
ON SECOND THOUGHT, IT LOOKS LIKE THE WATUSI!
MISS GOODGRAVY --HELP ME, PLEASE!
CHUP
HI-YA!
THIS IS... SO BLEEDIN' ODD!
PAR FOR THE COURSE WITH THE REST OF MY DAY, THOUGH...

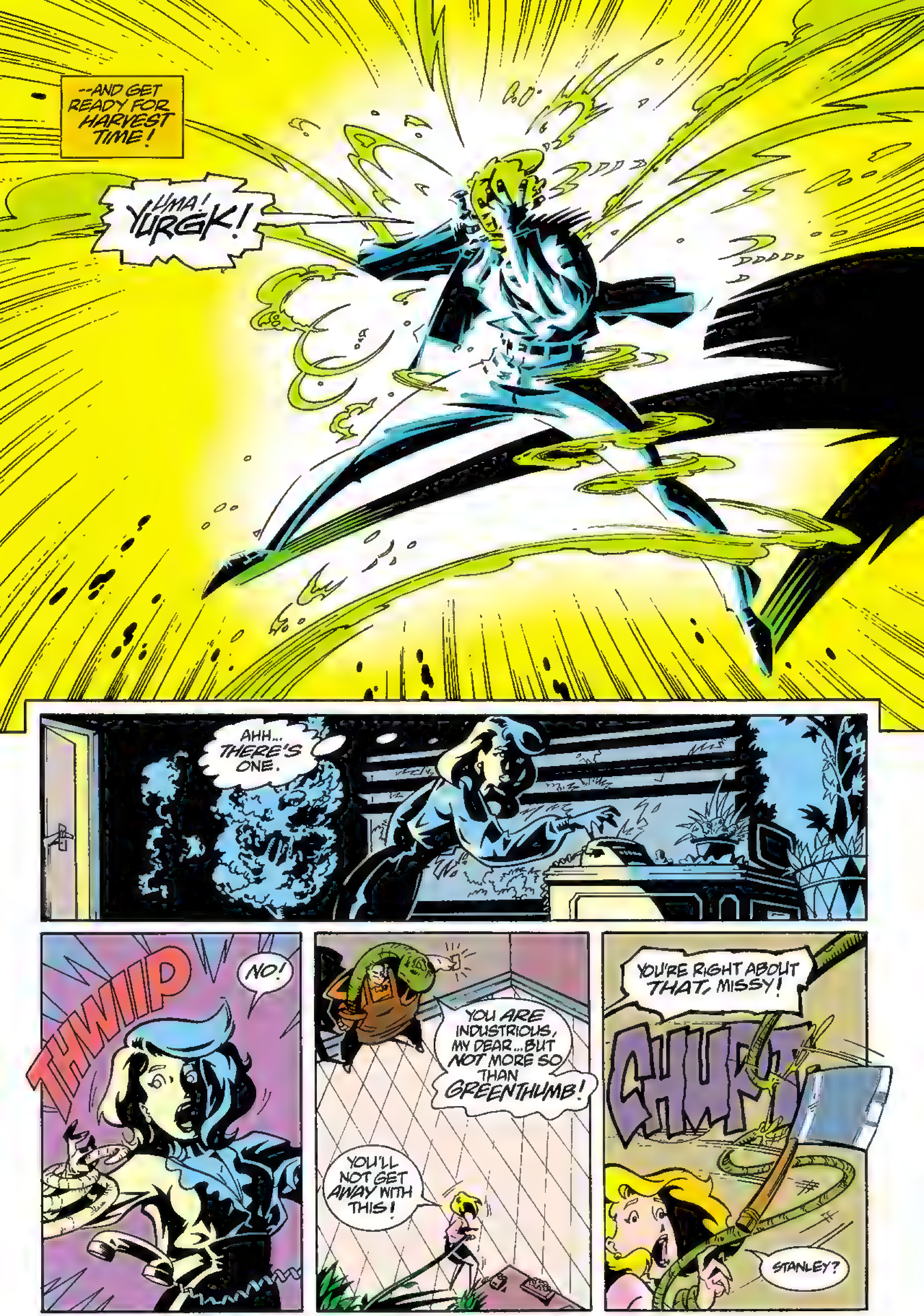
BRUTCH
CHAMMPP
SHRASHK!
ME PATIENCE'S RUNNIN' THIN WITH YOU WEEDS!
BRAK
HISSSSS


LEMME GO, YOU!
THAP THAP
MISS GOODGRAVY!
DROP HER!!
WHAT DO I DO NOW? I CAN'T BECOME THE MASK TO SAVE HER WITHOUT GIVING AWAY MY SECRET!
NO!!
BUT I ALSO CAN'T JUST SIT HERE AND LET THAT PLANT GET AWAY WITH--
ACK!
MY WORD!
WAAAA


UHH...WHA' HAP'?
HELLO, MR. BAIN. GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
HUH...?
YAA!
WHO TH--?!
YOUR STUMBLING INTO THE CLUTCHES OF ONE OF MY BANK-ROBBING PLANTS WAS AS FORTUITOUS AS A RAINSTORM DURING A DROUGHT, MR. BAIN...
...ESPECIALLY SINCE MY AIDE, GARDENIA THORN, OBVIOUSLY FAILED TO EXTERMINATE YOU.
L-LISTEN, WHOEVER YOU ARE--MY NAME IS NOT "MR. BAIN"... I'M STANLEY IPKISS. I WORK AT THE EDGE CITY BANK, IN AMERICA.
HISSSS
YOU'VE CONFUSED ME WITH SOMEBODY WHO MUST LOOK LIKE ME, SO TELL YOU WHAT --LET US GO, AND, uh... WE WON'T PRESS CHARGES.
GROVELING IS NOT WHAT I'VE GROWN TO EXPECT FROM IAN BAIN, AGENT 711, SECRET AGENT SUPREME.


HOW MANY TIMES I GOTTA TELL-- MMGFF!
SILENCE, MR. BAIN. GREENTHUMB GROWS TIRED OF YOUR PATHETIC WHINING!
PRINCESS, MY BELOVED PET, IF YOU PLEASE...
CHAK
WHIRRRRRRRR
HEY, WHAT--?
IT'S A CONVEYOR BELT, MR. BAIN, LEADING TO THE DEADLY JAWS OF--
NGRRIND!
CHOMP!
--MY MULCHER!
IN MERE MOMENTS, YOU AND YOUR LOVELY FRIEND WILL BE GROUND INTO PLANT FOOD!
GOOD-BYE, MR. BAIN. I'LL MISS YOU-- VERY MULCH! heh-heh!
I'M A BANK SECURITY AGENT, YA 'EAR ME?! DO THIS, AN' YOU'LL NEVER GET A FREE CALENDAR, NO MATTER WHERE YOU OPEN AN ACCOUNT!


CHOMP!
CHANK
GRINNDD!
MR. IPKISS, I MUST THANK YOU FOR COMIN' TO ME RESCUE IN THE BANK.
WHAT?! YOU'LL HAVE TO SPEAK UP!
I SAID, THANKS FOR COMIN' TO ME RESCUE!!
IT'S NOTHING YOU WOULDN'T'VE DONE...
SHRNK
GRNNDD
...GWENDOLYN!
STANLEY...
CHANK
WHAT WAS THAT?!
HOPE-FULLY NOT MY ARMS.
MY BRIEFCASE--IT STOPPED THE MULCHER...THE CONVEYOR BELT, TOO.
AN' THE VINES 'AVE COME LOOSE.
I'LL FIND A PHONE AN' RING FOR 'ELP. YOU STAY 'ERE, STANLEY, TILL I GET BACK.
uh... OKAY, GWEN.
YEAH, I'LL STAY HERE LONG ENOUGH TO REACH INTO MY BRIEFCASE--


--AND GET READY FOR HARVEST TIME!
UMA! YURGK!
AHH... THERE'S ONE.
THWIIP
NO!
YOU ARE INDUSTRIOUS, MY DEAR...BUT NOT MORE SO THAN GREENTHUMB!
YOU'LL NOT GET AWAY WITH THIS!
YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT, MISSY!
CHUFT
STANLEY?

STANLEY WILL BE JOININ' YA SHORTLY, MA'AM.
TILL THEN, YOU'LL HAVETA SETTLE FOR ME.
GET HIM, MY PLANT SLAVES!
WATCH OUT, VEGGIES! YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH A REGULAR CUTUP!
HISSSSS
WOMP
I've heard of unruly gardens...
...but THIS is RIDICULOUS!
WEEEEEE-EERRRR

GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG
NO! DON'T!
JUST ONE GLASS OF VEGETABLE JUICE EACH DAY PROVIDES ALL THE ESSENTIAL VITAMINS AND NUTRIENTS YOU NEED TO STAY STRONG AND HEALTHY--
--IF YOU AREN'T BOTHERED BY THE APPALLING TINT IT LEAVES ON YOUR TEETH, THAT IS.
SOB! YOU... SNIFF! DRANK MY BABIES!
SO HOW DOES A GLOBE-TROTTING, GREEN-FACED GUARDIAN OF GOOD CELEBRATE CAPTURING AN EVIL MASTERMIND...?
CONGRATS ON ARRESTING GREENTHUMB, GWEN.
WELL, TH' THANKS SHOULD REALLY GO TO THAT PECULIAR CHAP WITH TH' BIG 'EAD...
YOUR DINNER, MA'AM...
TING
A TOSSED SALAD, BRIMMING WITH THE FRESHEST GREENS OUR GARDEN HAS TO OFFER.
GREENS? EEYUCK!
The End

DOBER-MAN FOREVER

MARS CAMPOS

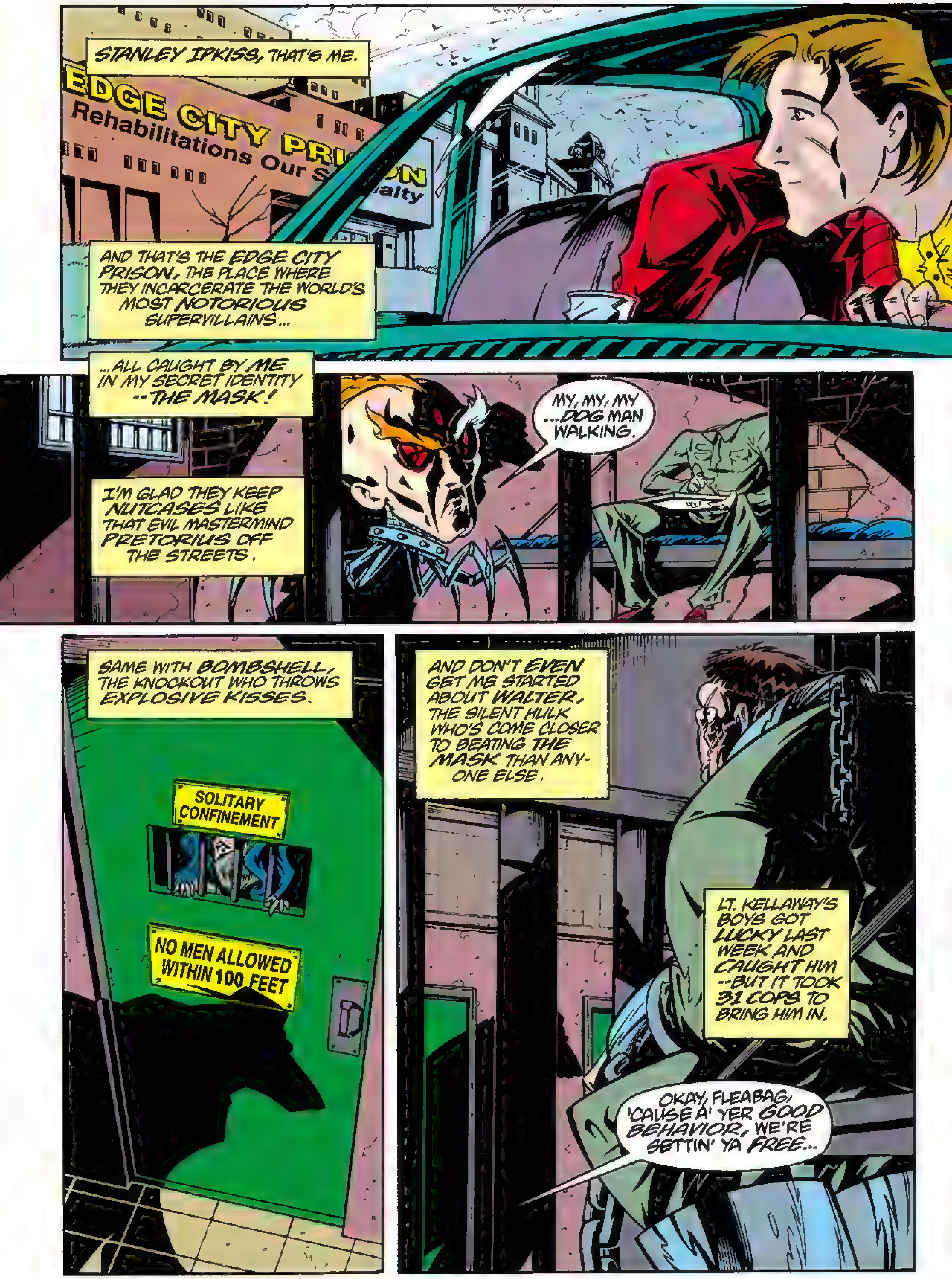
script
MICHAEL EURY

art
MARC CAMPOS

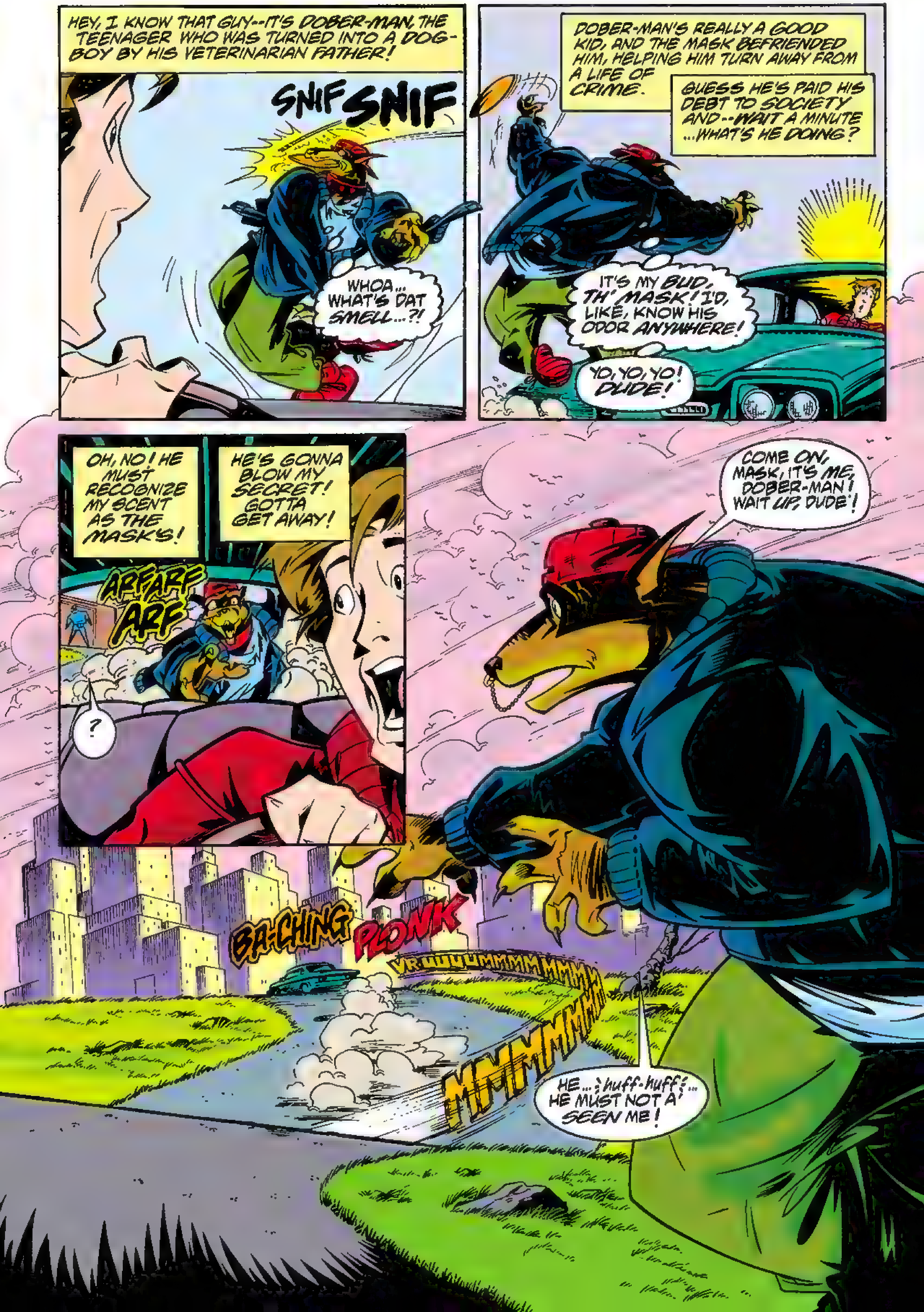
colors
MATT WEBB

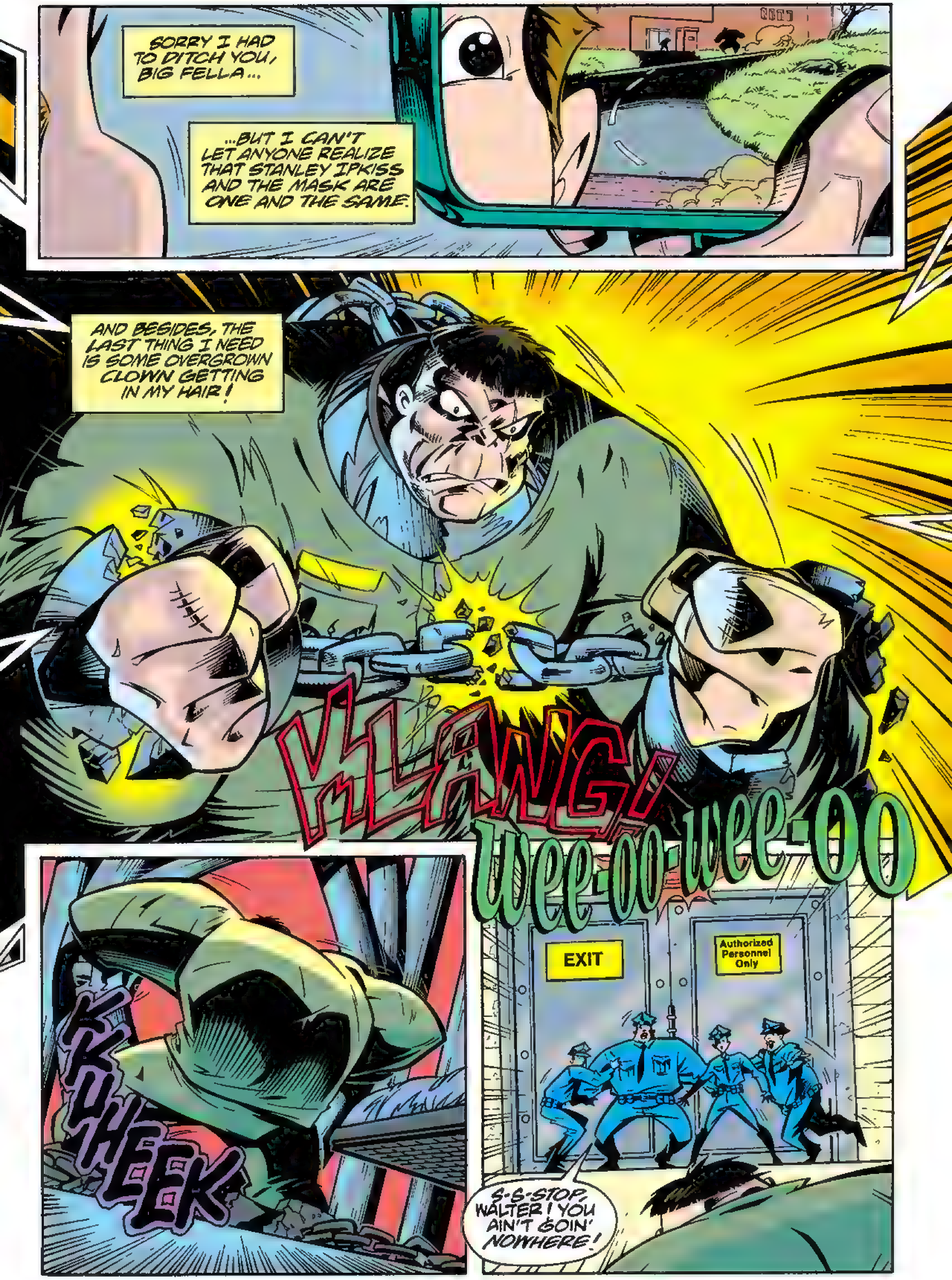
lettering
CLEM ROBINS

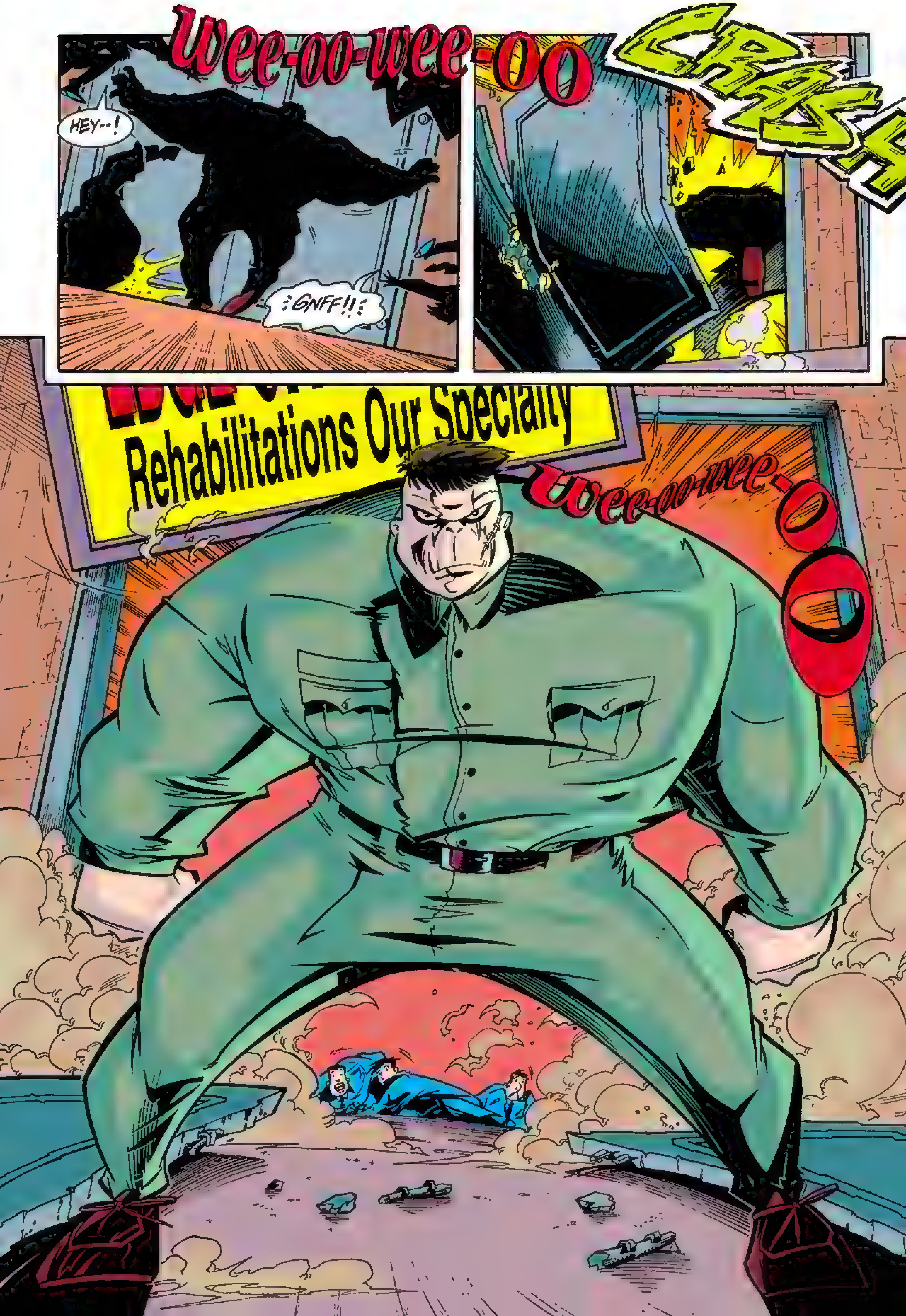
title illustration
MARC CAMPOS

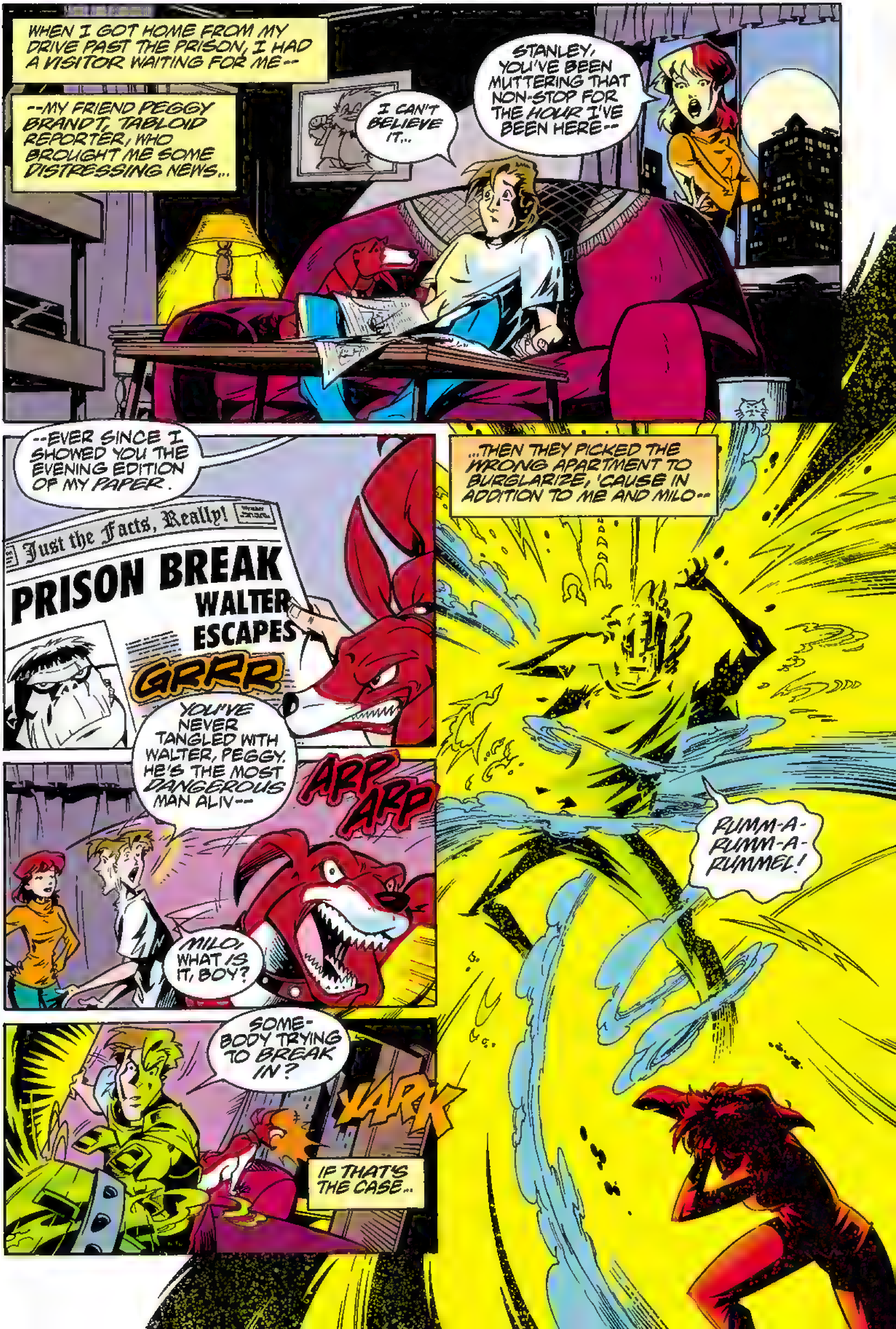

STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
EDGE CITY PRI ON
Rehabilitations Our S alty
AND THAT'S THE EDGE CITY PRISON, THE PLACE WHERE THEY INCARCERATE THE WORLD'S MOST NOTORIOUS SUPERVILLAINS...
...ALL CAUGHT BY ME IN MY SECRET IDENTITY --THE MASK!
I'M GLAD THEY KEEP NUTCASES LIKE THAT EVIL MASTERMIND PRETORIUS OFF THE STREETS.
MY, MY, MY ...DOG MAN WALKING.
SAME WITH BOMBSHELL, THE KNOCKOUT WHO THROWS EXPLOSIVE KISSES.
SOLITARY CONFINEMENT
NO MEN ALLOWED WITHIN 100 FEET
AND DON'T EVEN GET ME STARTED ABOUT WALTER, THE SILENT HULK WHO'S COME CLOSER TO BEATING THE MASK THAN ANYONE ELSE.
LT. KELLAWAY'S BOYS GOT LUCKY LAST WEEK AND CAUGHT HIM --BUT IT TOOK 31 COPS TO BRING HIM IN.
OKAY, FLEABAG, 'CAUSE A' YER GOOD BEHAVIOR, WE'RE SETTIN' YA FREE...

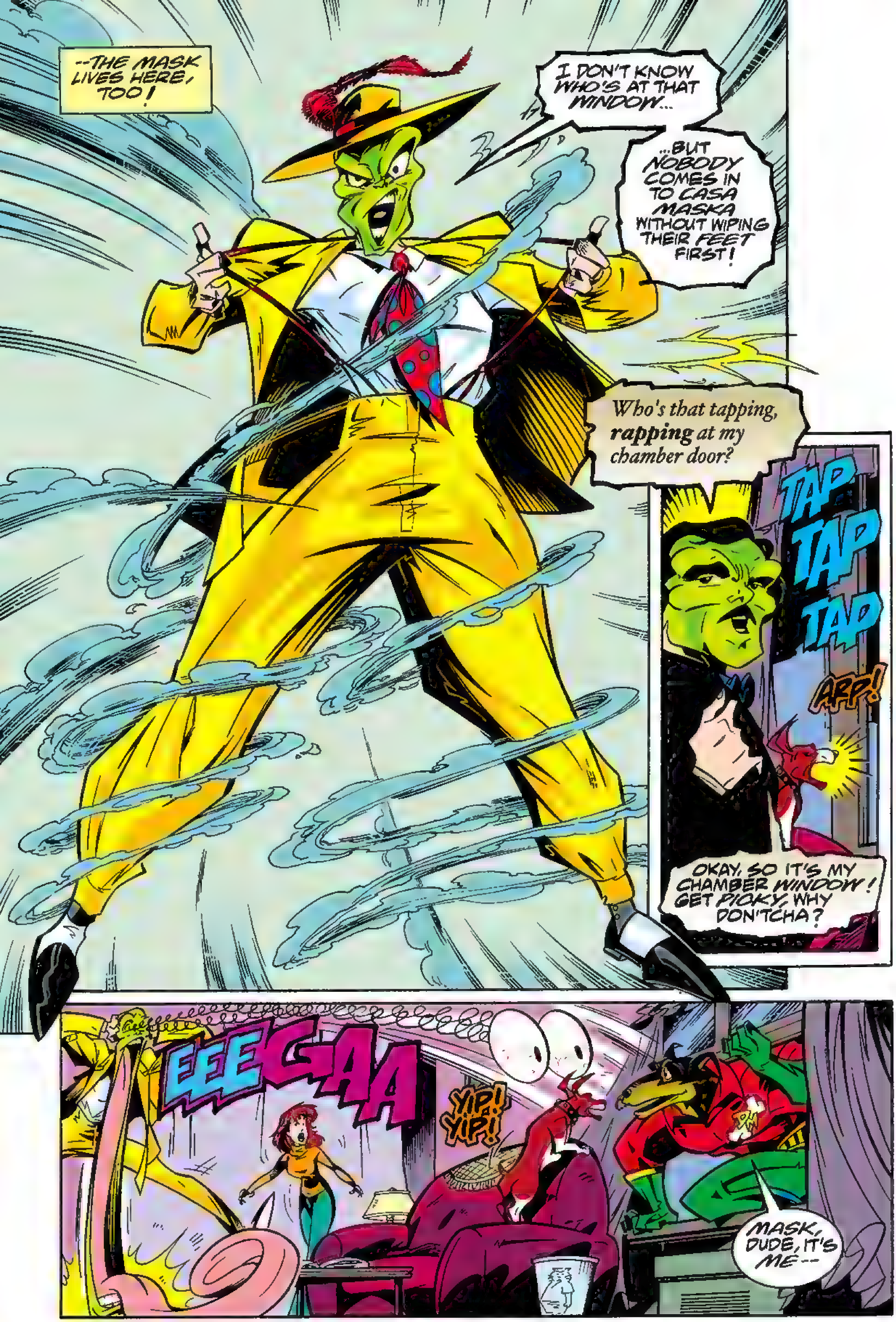
I SHUDDER TO THINK OF THE DAMAGE HE'D CAUSE IF HE EVER GOT LOOSE.
RUFF RUFF RUFF
...SO 'BYE-'BYE DOBER-MAN!
DOBER-MAN FOREVER

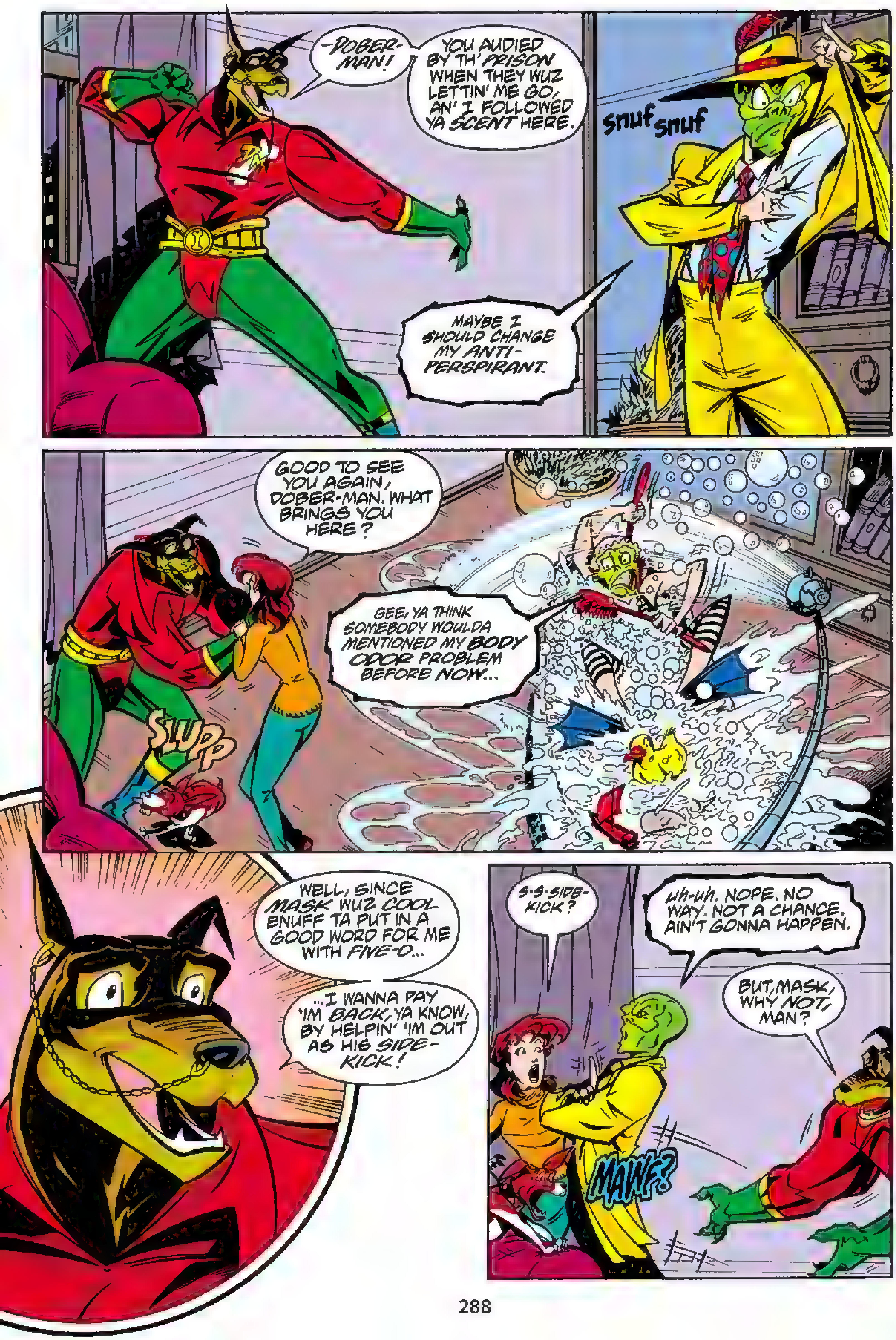

HEY, I KNOW THAT GUY--IT'S DOBER-MAN, THE TEENAGER WHO WAS TURNED INTO A DOG-BOY BY HIS VETERINARIAN FATHER!
SNIF SNIF
WHOA... WHAT'S DAT SMELL...?!
DOBER-MAN'S REALLY A GOOD KID, AND THE MASK BEFRIENDED HIM, HELPING HIM TURN AWAY FROM A LIFE OF CRIME.
GUESS HE'S PAID HIS DEBT TO SOCIETY AND--WAIT A MINUTE ...WHAT'S HE DOING?
IT'S MY BUD, TH' MASK! I'D, LIKE, KNOW HIS ODOR ANYWHERE!
YO, YO, YO! DUDE!
OH, NO! HE MUST RECOGNIZE MY SCENT AS THE MASK'S!
HE'S GONNA BLOW MY SECRET! GOTTA GET AWAY!
ARF ARF ARF
?
COME ON, MASK, IT'S ME, DOBER-MAN! WAIT UP, DUDE!
BA-CHING
PLONK
VROOOOMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM
HE... huff-huff ... HE MUST NOT A' SEEN ME!

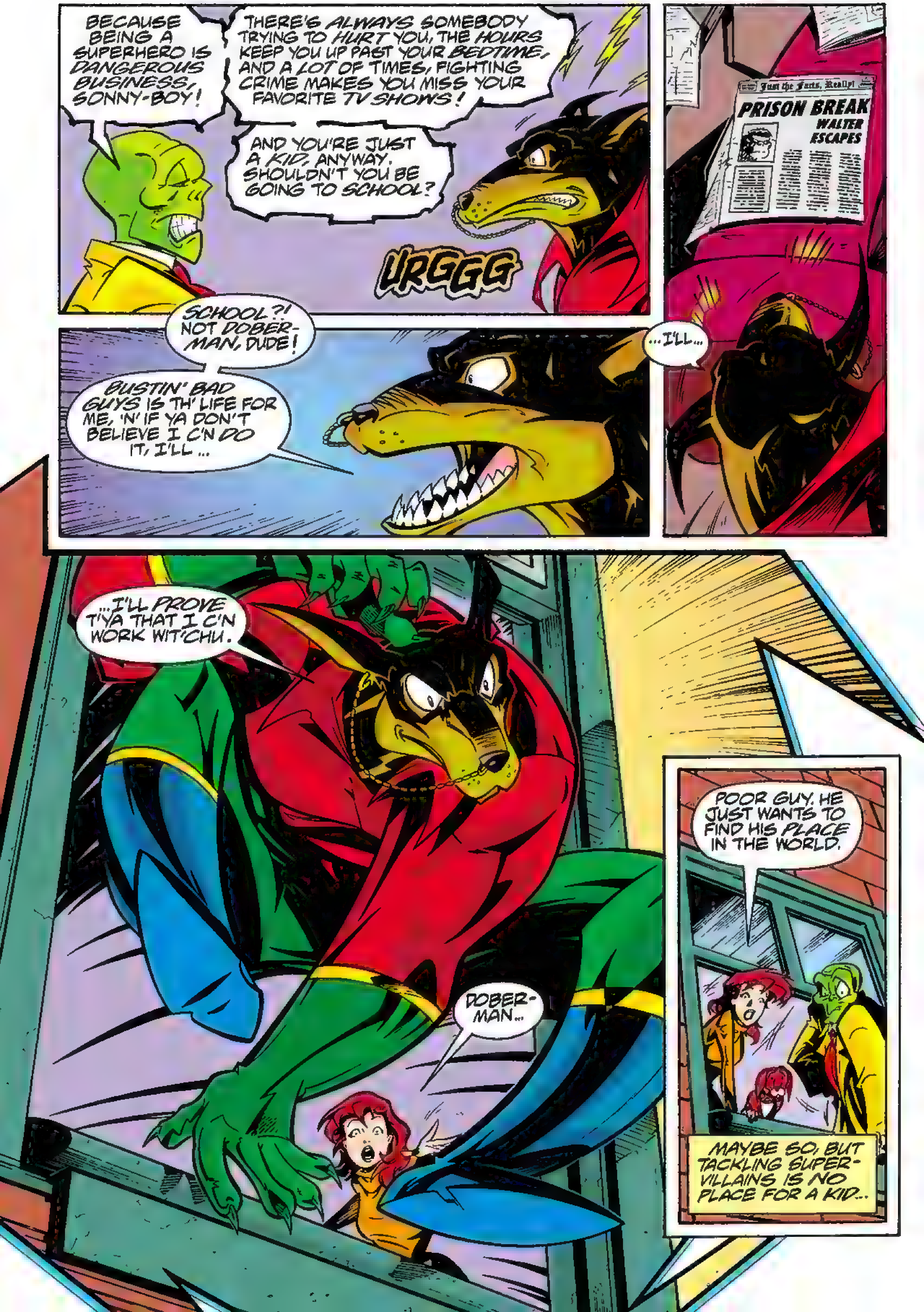

SORRY I HAD TO DITCH YOU, BIG FELLA...
...BUT I CAN'T LET ANYONE REALIZE THAT STANLEY IPKISS AND THE MASK ARE ONE AND THE SAME.
AND BESIDES, THE LAST THING I NEED IS SOME OVERGROWN CLOWN GETTING IN MY HAIR!
KLANG!
WEE-OO-WEE-OO
KKWHEEK
EXIT
Authorized Personnel Only
S-S-STOP, WALTER! YOU AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE!


Wee-oo-wee-oo
HEY--!
GNFF!!
CRASH
Rehabilitations Our Specialty
Wee-oo-wee-o-o

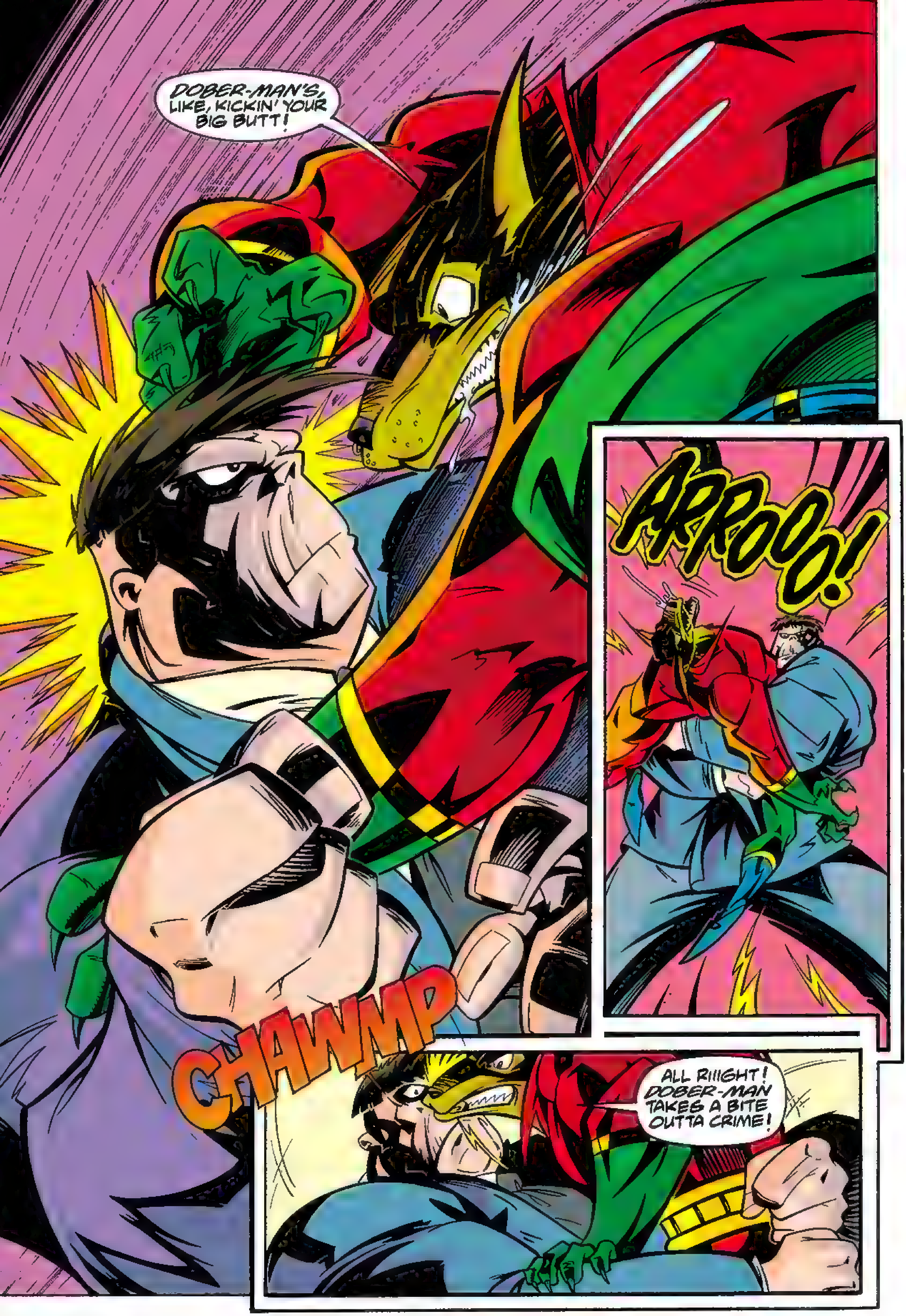

WHEN I GOT HOME FROM MY DRIVE PAST THE PRISON, I HAD A VISITOR WAITING FOR ME--
--MY FRIEND PEGGY BRANDT, TABLOID REPORTER, WHO BROUGHT ME SOME DISTRESSING NEWS...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
STANLEY, YOU'VE BEEN MUTTERING THAT NON-STOP FOR THE HOUR I'VE BEEN HERE--
--EVER SINCE I SHOWED YOU THE EVENING EDITION OF MY PAPER.
Just the Facts, Really!
PRISON BREAK
WALTER ESCAPES
GRRRR
YOU'VE NEVER TANGLED WITH WALTER, PEGGY. HE'S THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN ALIV--
ARP ARP
MILO, WHAT IS IT, BOY?
SOME-BODY TRYING TO BREAK IN?
YARK
IF THAT'S THE CASE...
...THEN THEY PICKED THE WRONG APARTMENT TO BURGLARIZE, 'CAUSE IN ADDITION TO ME AND MILO--
RUMM-A-RUMM-A-RUMMEL!


--THE MASK LIVES HERE, TOO!
I DON'T KNOW WHO'S AT THAT WINDOW...
...BUT NOBODY COMES IN TO CASA MASKA WITHOUT WIPING THEIR FEET FIRST!
Who's that tapping, **rapping** at my chamber door?
TAP TAP TAP
ARP!
OKAY, SO IT'S MY CHAMBER WINDOW! GET PICKY, WHY DON'TCHA?
EEEGAAA
YIP! YIP!
MASK, DUDE, IT'S ME--

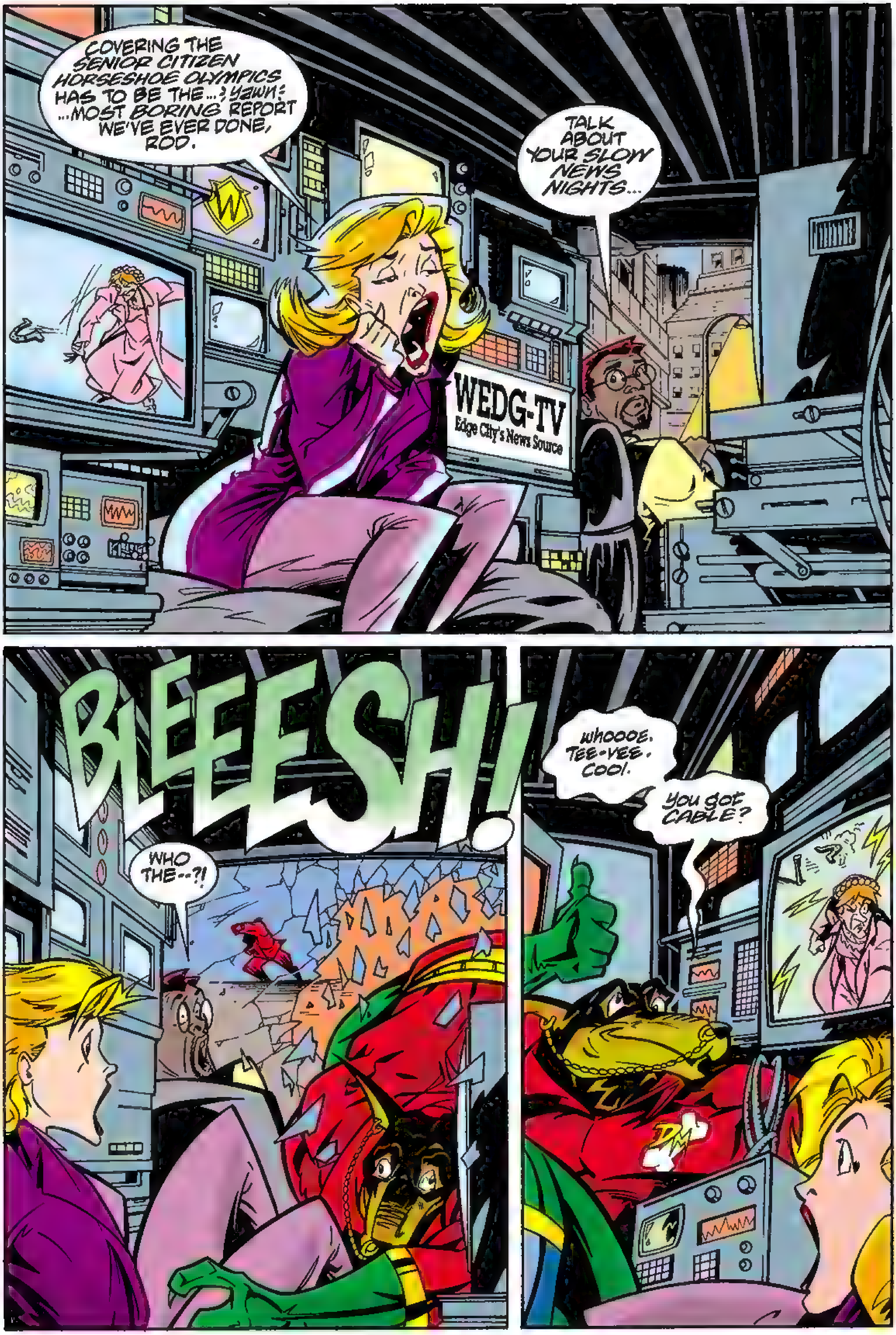

-DOBER-MAN!
YOU AUDIED BY TH' PRISON WHEN THEY WUZ LETTIN' ME GO, AN' I FOLLOWED YA SCENT HERE.
snuf snuf
MAYBE I SHOULD CHANGE MY ANTI-PERSPIRANT.
GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DOBER-MAN. WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
GEE, YA THINK SOMEBODY WOULDA MENTIONED MY BODY ODOR PROBLEM BEFORE NOW...
SLUPP
WELL, SINCE MASK WUZ COOL ENUFF TA PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR ME WITH FIVE-O...
...I WANNA PAY 'IM BACK, YA KNOW, BY HELPIN' 'IM OUT AS HIS SIDE-KICK!
S-S-SIDE-KICK?
uh-uh. NOPE. NO WAY. NOT A CHANCE. AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN.
BUT, MASK, WHY NOT, MAN?
MAWF?

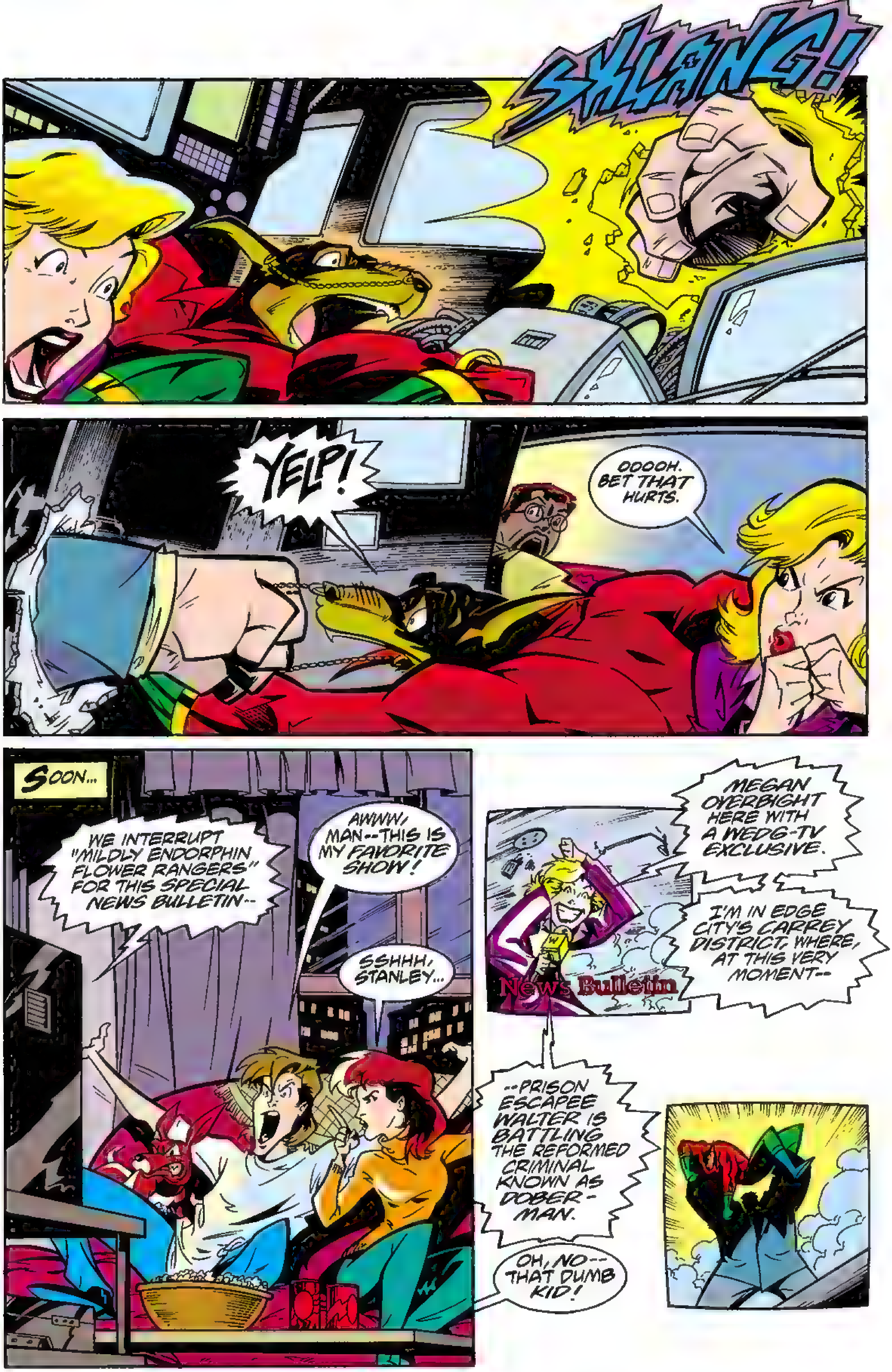

BECAUSE BEING A SUPERHERO IS DANGEROUS BUSINESS, SONNY-BOY!
THERE'S ALWAYS SOMEBODY TRYING TO HURT YOU, THE HOURS KEEP YOU UP PAST YOUR BEDTIME, AND A LOT OF TIMES, FIGHTING CRIME MAKES YOU MISS YOUR FAVORITE TV SHOWS!
AND YOU'RE JUST A KID, ANYWAY. SHOULDN'T YOU BE GOING TO SCHOOL?
URGGG
Just the Facts, Really!
PRISON BREAK
WALTER ESCAPES
SCHOOL?! NOT DOBERMAN, DUDE!
BUSTIN' BAD GUYS IS TH' LIFE FOR ME, 'N' IF YA DON'T BELIEVE I C'N DO IT, I'LL ...
...I'LL...
...I'LL PROVE T'YA THAT I C'N WORK WIT'CHU.
DOBERMAN...
POOR GUY. HE JUST WANTS TO FIND HIS PLACE IN THE WORLD.
MAYBE SO, BUT TACKLING SUPER-VILLAINS IS NO PLACE FOR A KID...

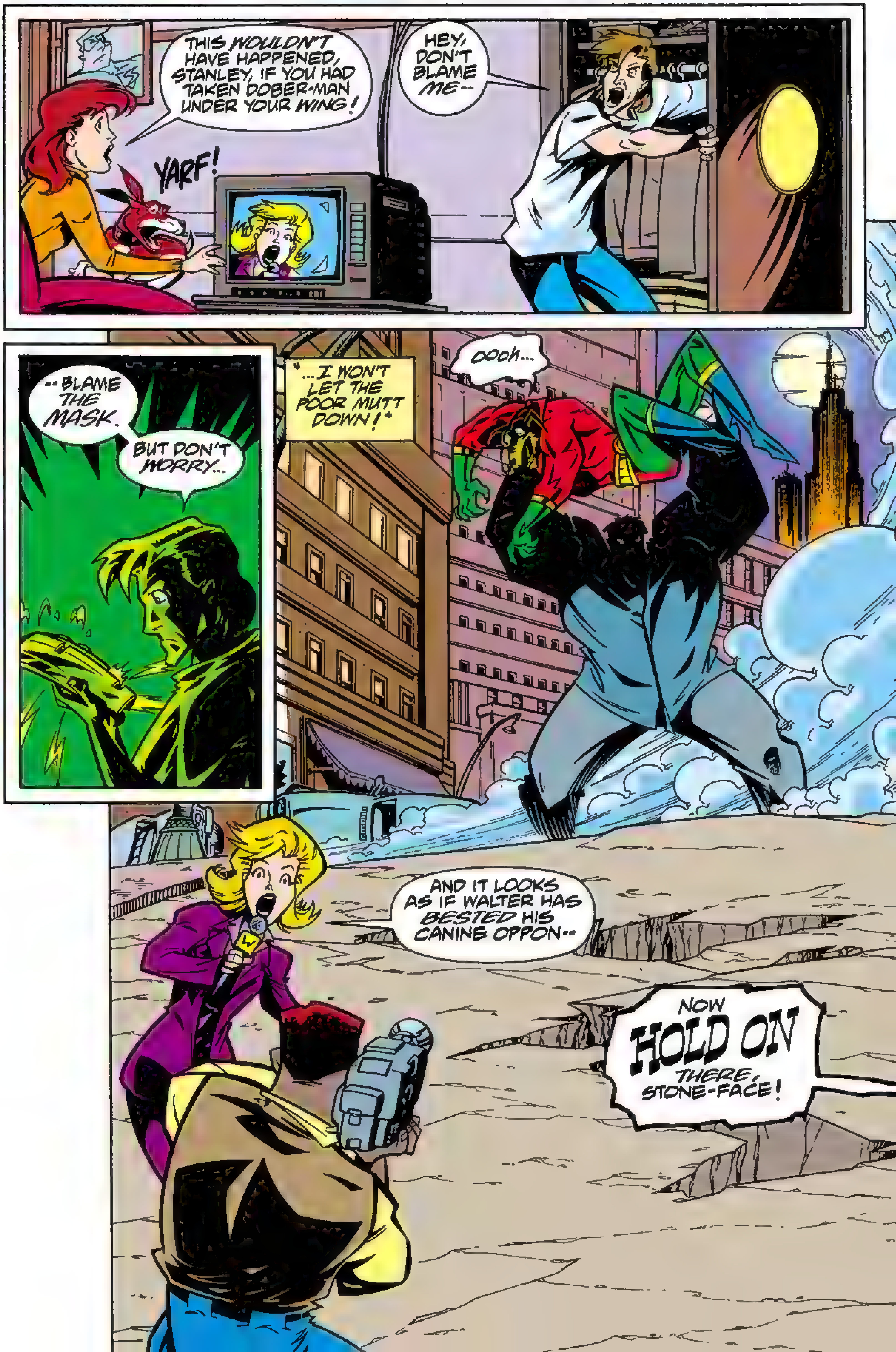
...NO PLACE AT ALL.
G AND BIGGER MEN'S CLOTHING
YO! KNUCKLE UP, WALTER --
--'CAUSE YOU GOIN' DOWN!!
ARRGG!
Pet Shop


DOBER-MAN'S, LIKE, KICKIN' YOUR BIG BUTT!
CHAWMP
ARROOOO!
ALL RIIIGHT! DOBER-MAN TAKES A BITE OUTTA CRIME!

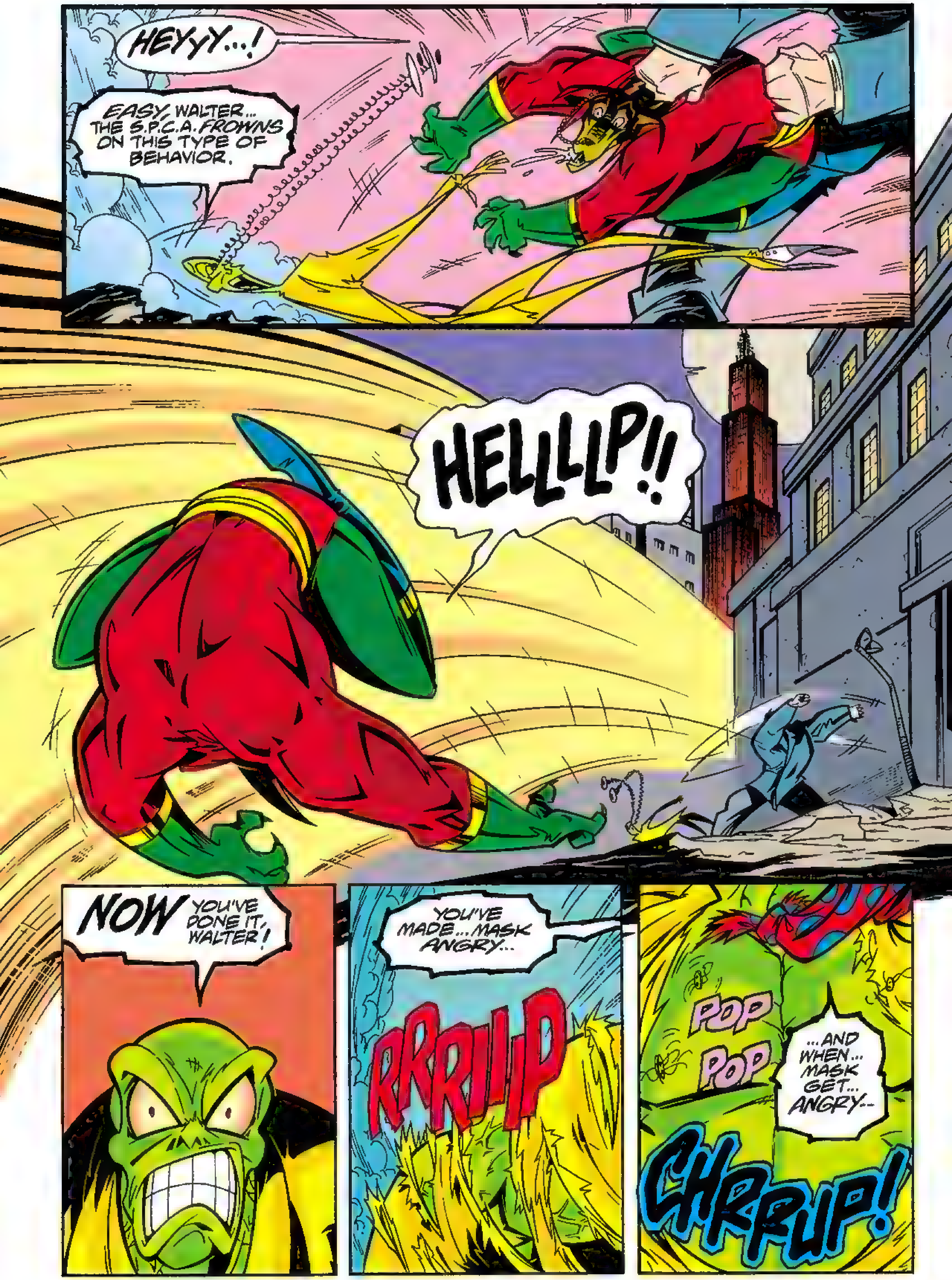
YEAH, GEEK, WHEN I PUT CHU BACK IN TH' POUND, *MASK'LL* SEE THAT I C'N CUT IT AS HIS *PARTNER*.
WE'LL BE A *TEAM*, JUS' LIKE *BATMAN 'N' ROBIN*! *MUSTARD 'N' CATSUP*! *FISH 'N' CHIPS*!
...RACK 'N' PAIN...
SOK
YIIPE!


COVERING THE SENIOR CITIZEN HORSESHOE OLYMPICS HAS TO BE THE... yawn ...MOST BORING REPORT WE'VE EVER DONE, ROD.
TALK ABOUT YOUR SLOW NEWS NIGHTS...
WEDG-TV
Edge City's News Source
BLEEESH!
WHO THE--?!
whoooe. TEE-VEE. cool.
You got CABLE?

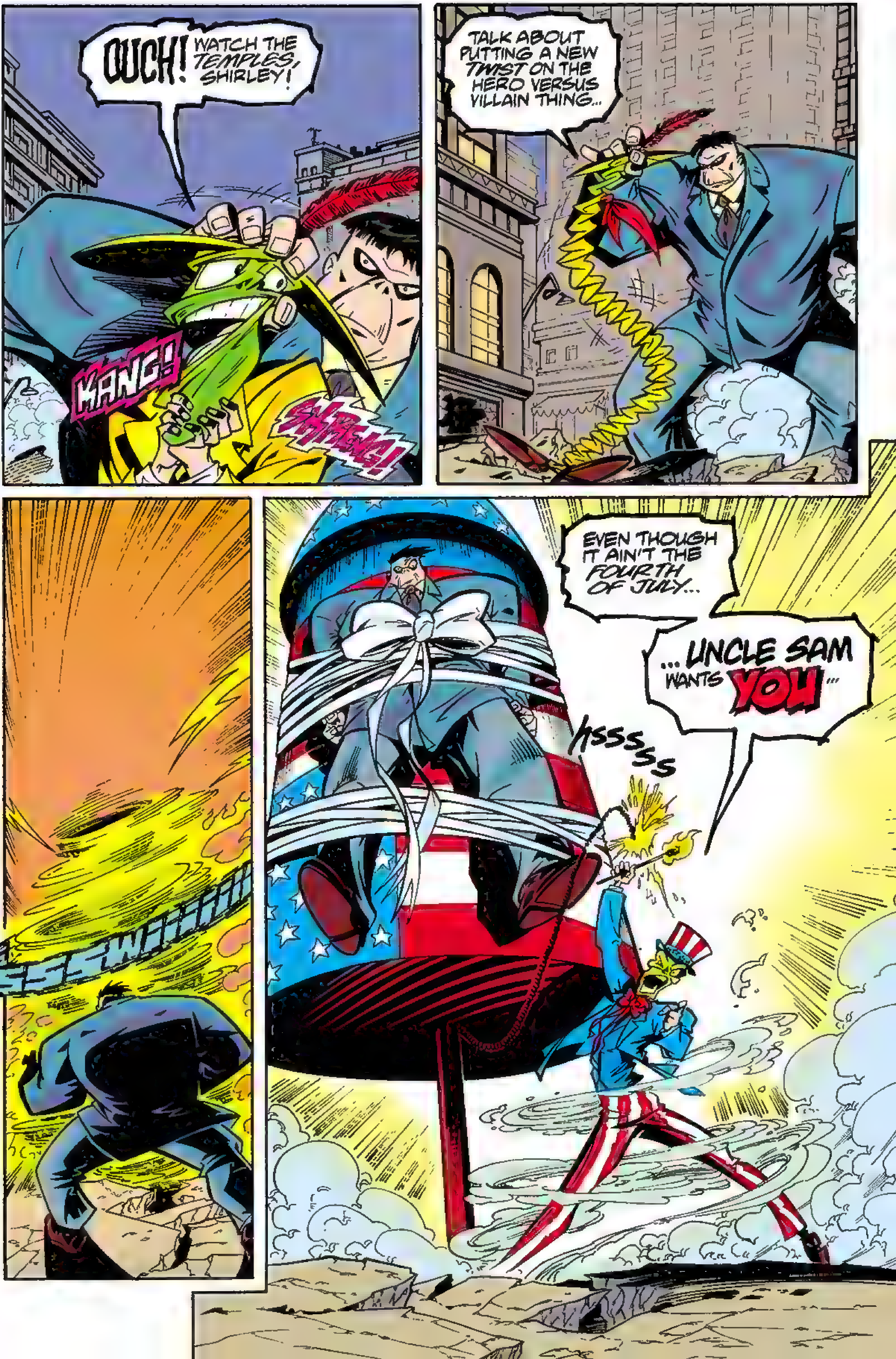

SKLANG!
YELP!
OOOOH. BET THAT HURTS.
SOON...
WE INTERRUPT "MILDLY ENDORPHIN FLOWER RANGERS" FOR THIS SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN--
AWWW, MAN--THIS IS MY FAVORITE SHOW!
SSHHH, STANLEY...
MEGAN OVERBIGHT HERE WITH A WEDG-TV EXCLUSIVE.
I'M IN EDGE CITY'S CARREY DISTRICT, WHERE, AT THIS VERY MOMENT--
News Bulletin
--PRISON ESCAPEE WALTER IS BATTLING THE REFORMED CRIMINAL KNOWN AS DOBER-MAN.
OH, NO--THAT DUMB KID!


THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED, STANLEY, IF YOU HAD TAKEN DOBER-MAN UNDER YOUR WING!
YARF!
HEY, DON'T BLAME ME--
--BLAME THE MASK.
BUT DON'T WORRY...
"...I WON'T LET THE POOR MUTT DOWN!"
oooh...
AND IT LOOKS AS IF WALTER HAS BESTED HIS CANINE OPPON--
NOW HOLD ON THERE, STONE-FACE!

BLAT-TA-SPLAT-TA-RAT-TA-TAT-TA
LIKE THE CAVALRY RIDING TO THE RESCUE, EDGE CITY'S BIZARRE PROTECTOR, THE MASK, HAS ENTERED THE SCENE.
M-MASK, DUDE... IT'S OHU.
YA DANG RIGHT, BOY. DON'T EVER BE AFRAID TA LEAN ON ME!
WHAKK
WUHHH...!
uh-oh.
NOW, YOUNG 'UN, YA DIDN'T HAVE TA TAKE THAT "LEAN ON ME" COMMENT SO DURNED LITERALLY!
SORRY.


HEYYY...!
EASY, WALTER... THE S.P.C.A. FROWNS ON THIS TYPE OF BEHAVIOR.
HELLLLP!!
NOW YOU'VE DONE IT, WALTER!
YOU'VE MADE... MASK ANGRY...
RRRIIIP
POP
POP
...AND WHEN... MASK GET... ANGRY...
CHRRUP!

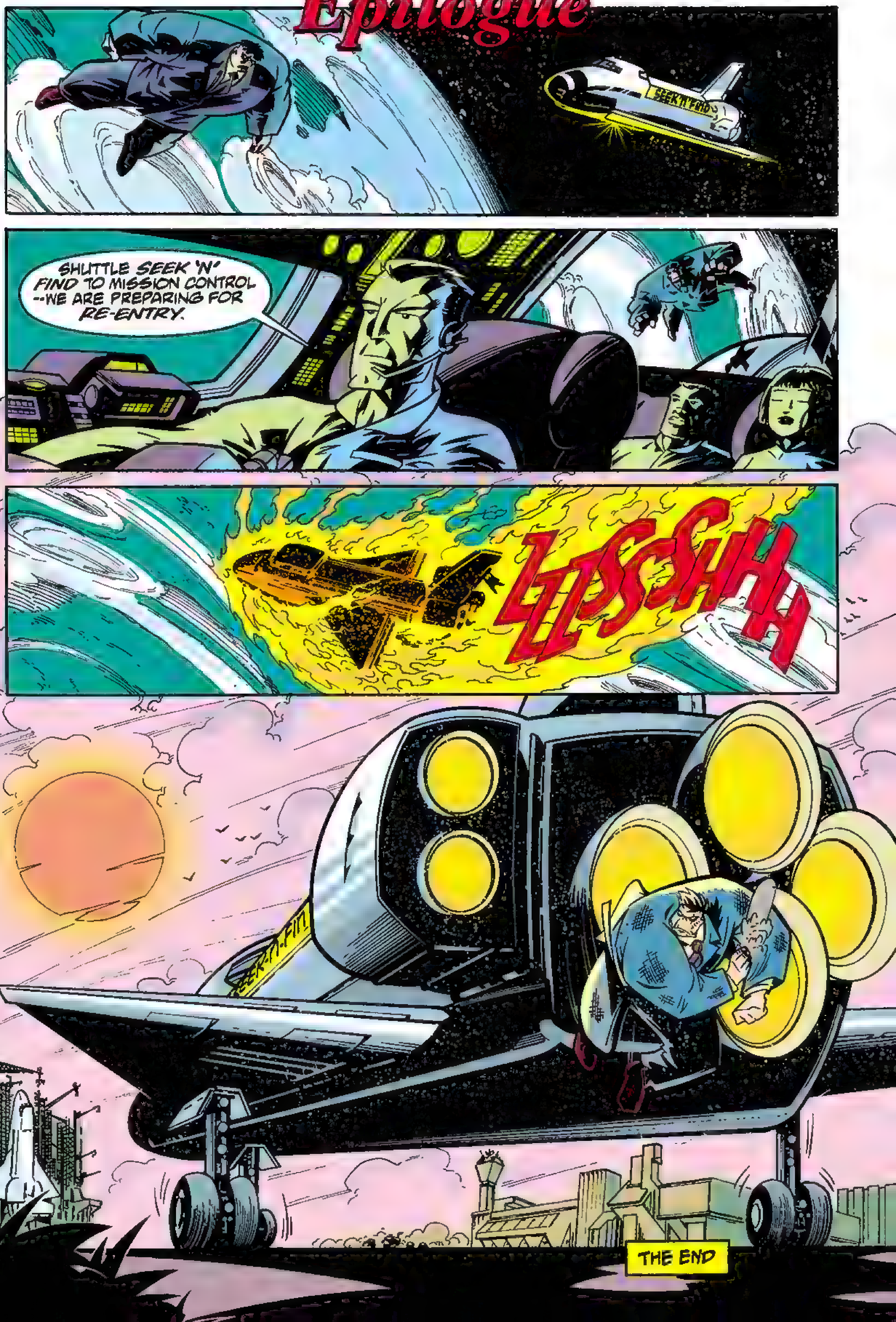
--MASK... SPEAK... FUNNY.
AND MASK--
GARLIC SALT
--BECOMES STRONGEST ONE THERE IS!
HUAAHHH!
JUK!
POOW


OUCH! WATCH THE *TEMPLES*, SHIRLEY!
KANG!
SHMENG!
TALK ABOUT PUTTING A NEW *TWIST* ON THE HERO VERSUS VILLAIN THING...
SSSWIIIIII
EVEN THOUGH IT AIN'T THE *FOURTH OF JULY*...
...UNCLE SAM WANTS **YOU**...
HSSSSSS

...TO CELEBRATE--
--FROM THE MOON!!!
SHRWOOOOSH!!

THAT WUZ SO COOL, MASK, DUDE.
OL' HEINOUS'LL THINK TWICE 'FORE MESSIN' WITH US AGAIN!
"US"?!?
YOUR ONLY CONTRIBUTION WAS DRIVING UP BANDAGE STOCK!
NOW, SON, I TOLD YOU, CRIMEFIGHTING IS DANGEROUS BUSINESS!
BUT YOU DIDN'T LISTEN TO MY ADVICE, AND ALMOST GOT YOURSELF SERIOUSLY HURT!
whimper whimper
BUT I GOTTA ADMIT, KID, TAKIN' ON A BIG GUY LIKE WALTER SHOWS SPUNK.
YOU'RE A BIT GREEN RIGHT NOW, BUT WHO KNOWS? WITH THE PROPER TRAINING, YOU MAY BE HERO MATERIAL YET.
SWEET, DUDE! BUT WHERE DO I START? AT, LIKE, TH' SUPERHERO ACADEMY OR SOMETHIN'?
WELL, PAL, I'D SAY HERE'S AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY.
EDGE CITY OBEDIENCE SCHOOL
AWWWWW, MAN...

Epilogue


SEEK 'N' FIND
SHUTTLE SEEK 'N' FIND TO MISSION CONTROL --WE ARE PREPARING FOR RE-ENTRY.
ZZSSHHH
SEEK-N-FIN
THE END

HOW THE MASK STOLE CHRISTMAS

MARC CAMPOS

script
MICHAEL EURY

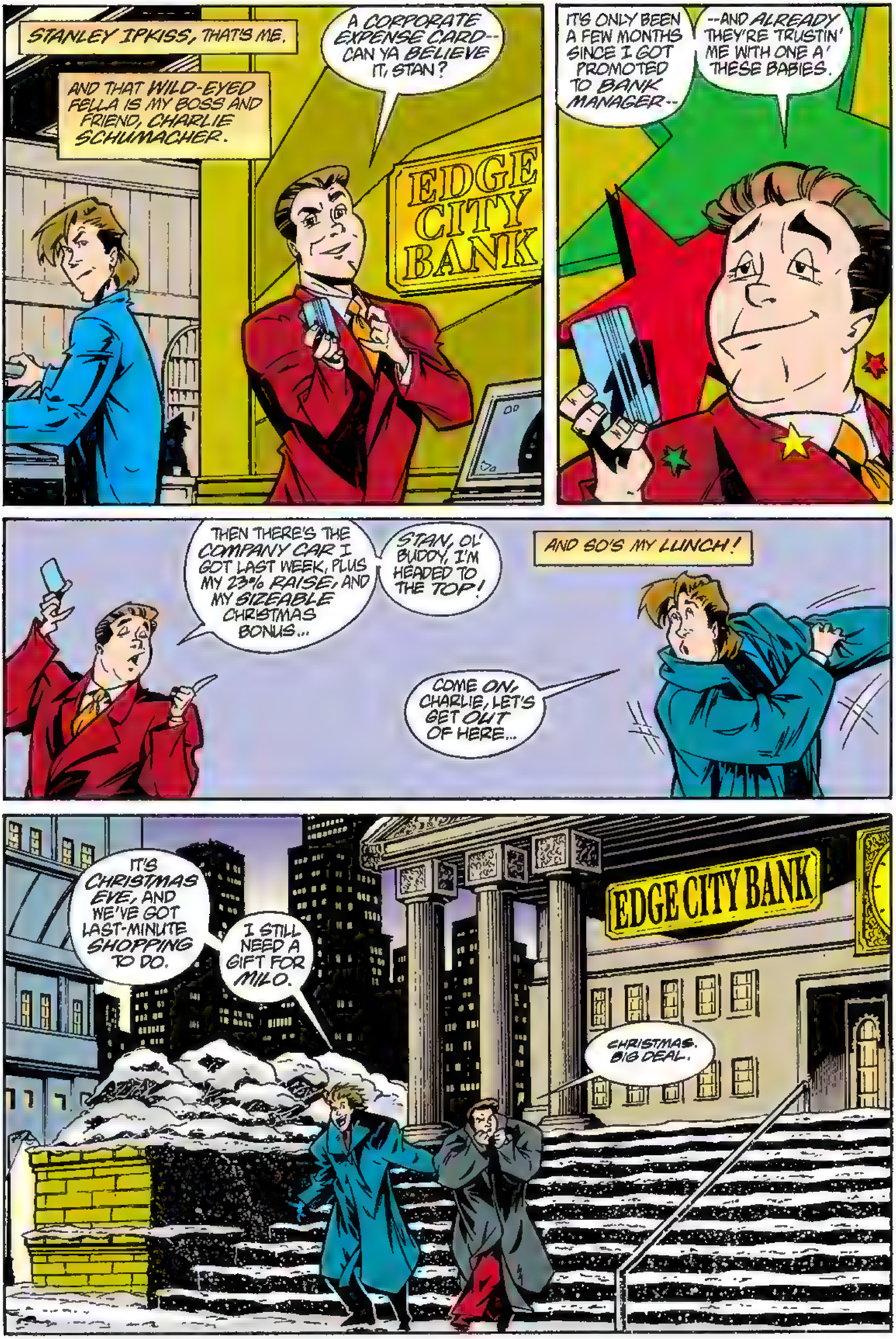
art
MARC CAMPOS

colors
MATT WEBB

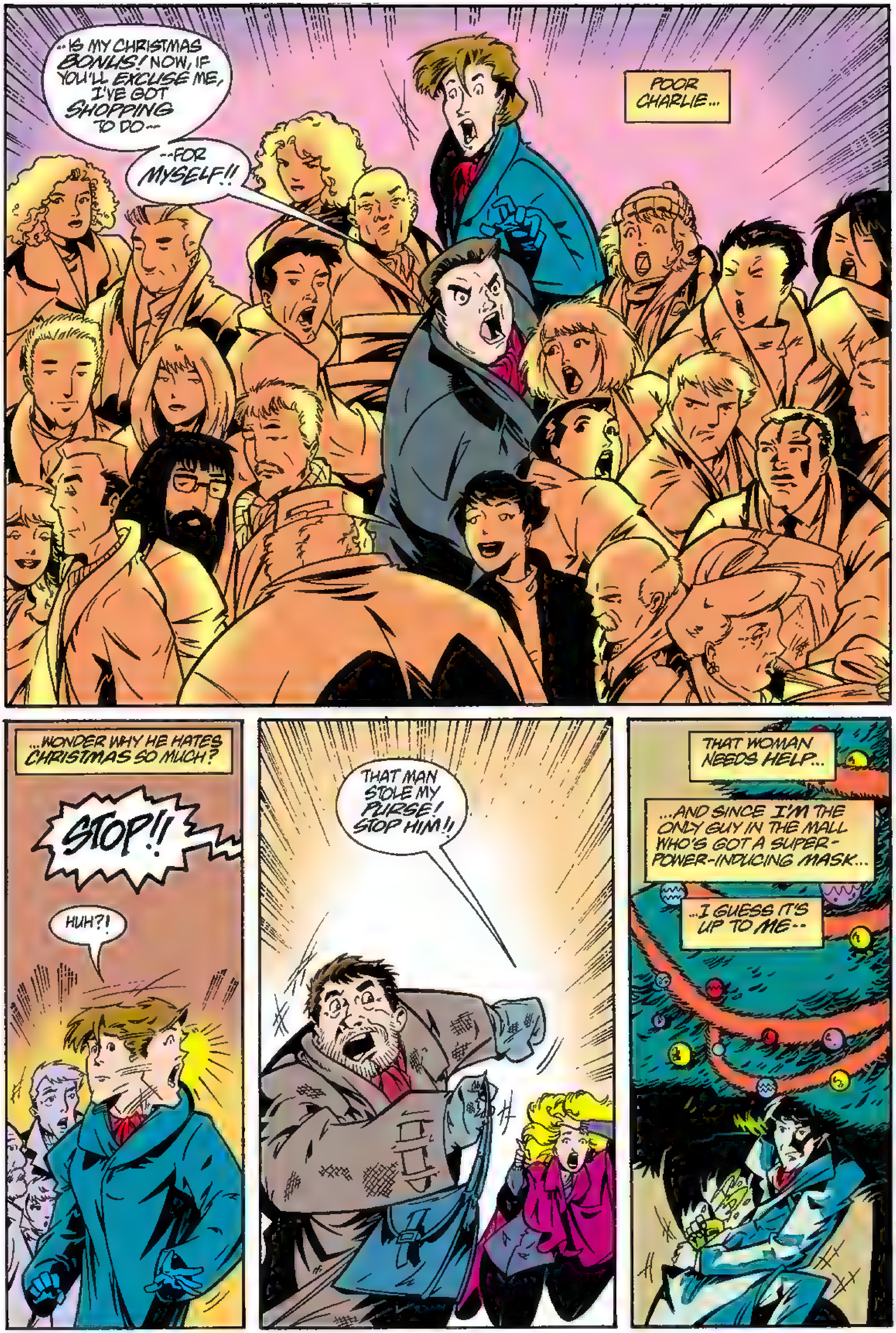
lettering
CLEM ROBINS

title illustration
MARC CAMPOS

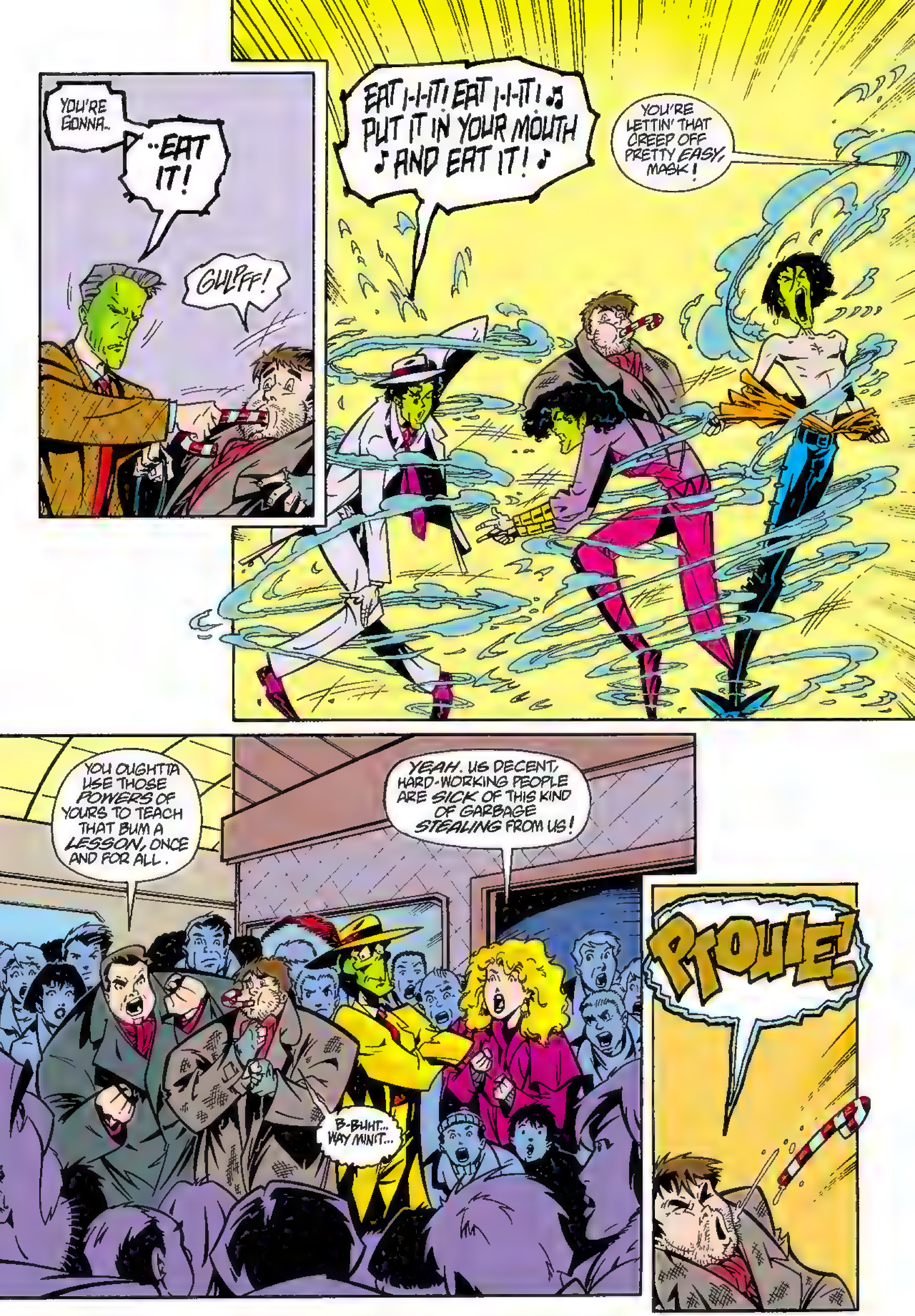
POWER!!
YESSIREE, WITH *THIS* LITTLE PUPPY, THERE'S *NO* STOPPIN' ME!!
HOW THE MASK STOLE Christmas

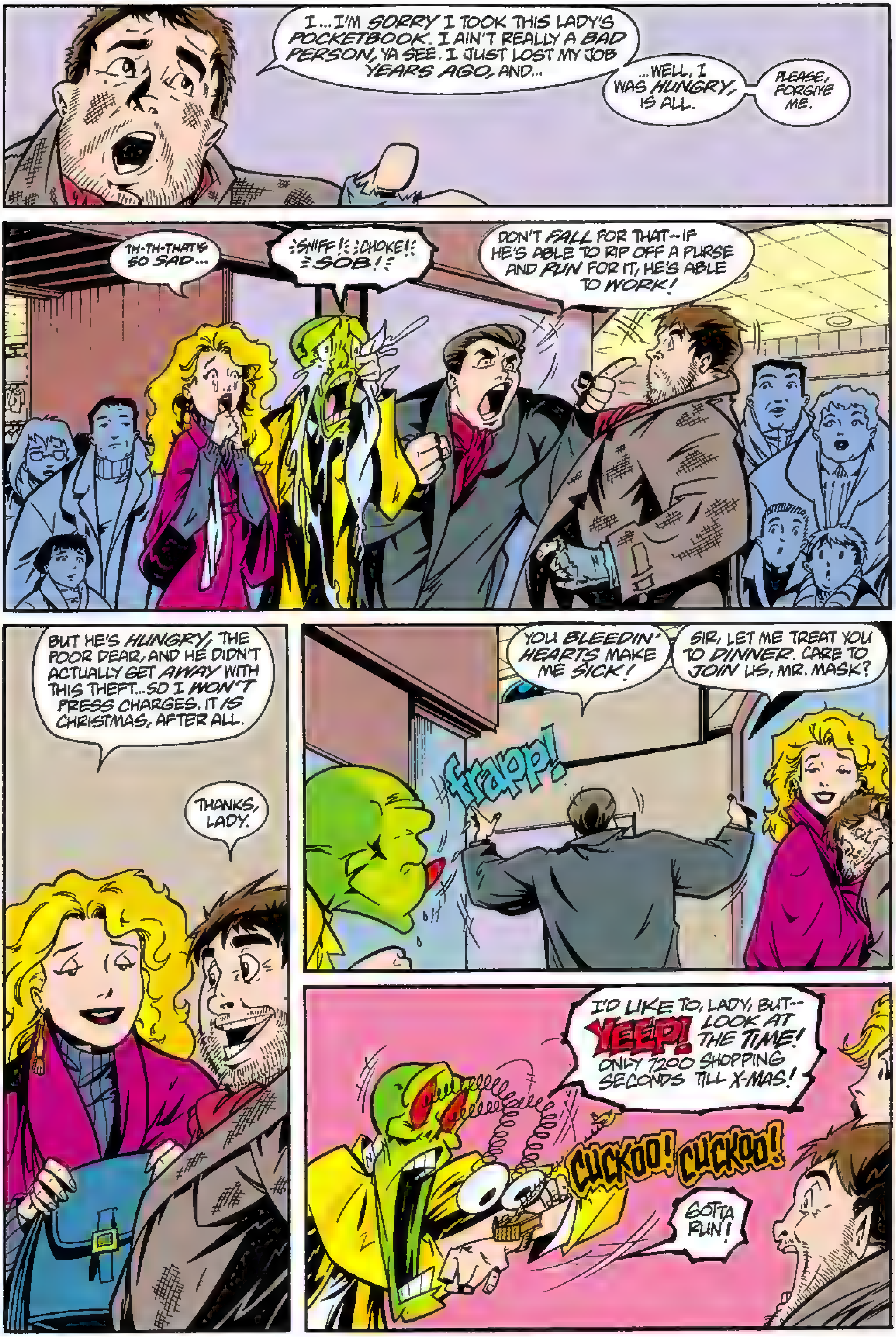

STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
AND THAT WILD-EYED FELLA IS MY BOSS AND FRIEND, CHARLIE SCHUMACHER.
A CORPORATE EXPENSE CARD-- CAN YA BELIEVE IT, STAN?
EDGE CITY BANK
IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW MONTHS SINCE I GOT PROMOTED TO BANK MANAGER--
--AND ALREADY THEY'RE TRUSTIN' ME WITH ONE A' THESE BABIES.
THEN THERE'S THE COMPANY CAR I GOT LAST WEEK, PLUS MY 23% RAISE, AND MY SIZEABLE CHRISTMAS BONUS...
STAN, OL' BUDDY, I'M HEADED TO THE TOP!
AND SO'S MY LUNCH!
COME ON, CHARLIE, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...
IT'S CHRISTMAS EVE, AND WE'VE GOT LAST-MINUTE SHOPPING TO DO.
I STILL NEED A GIFT FOR MILO.
EDGE CITY BANK
CHRISTMAS. BIG DEAL.

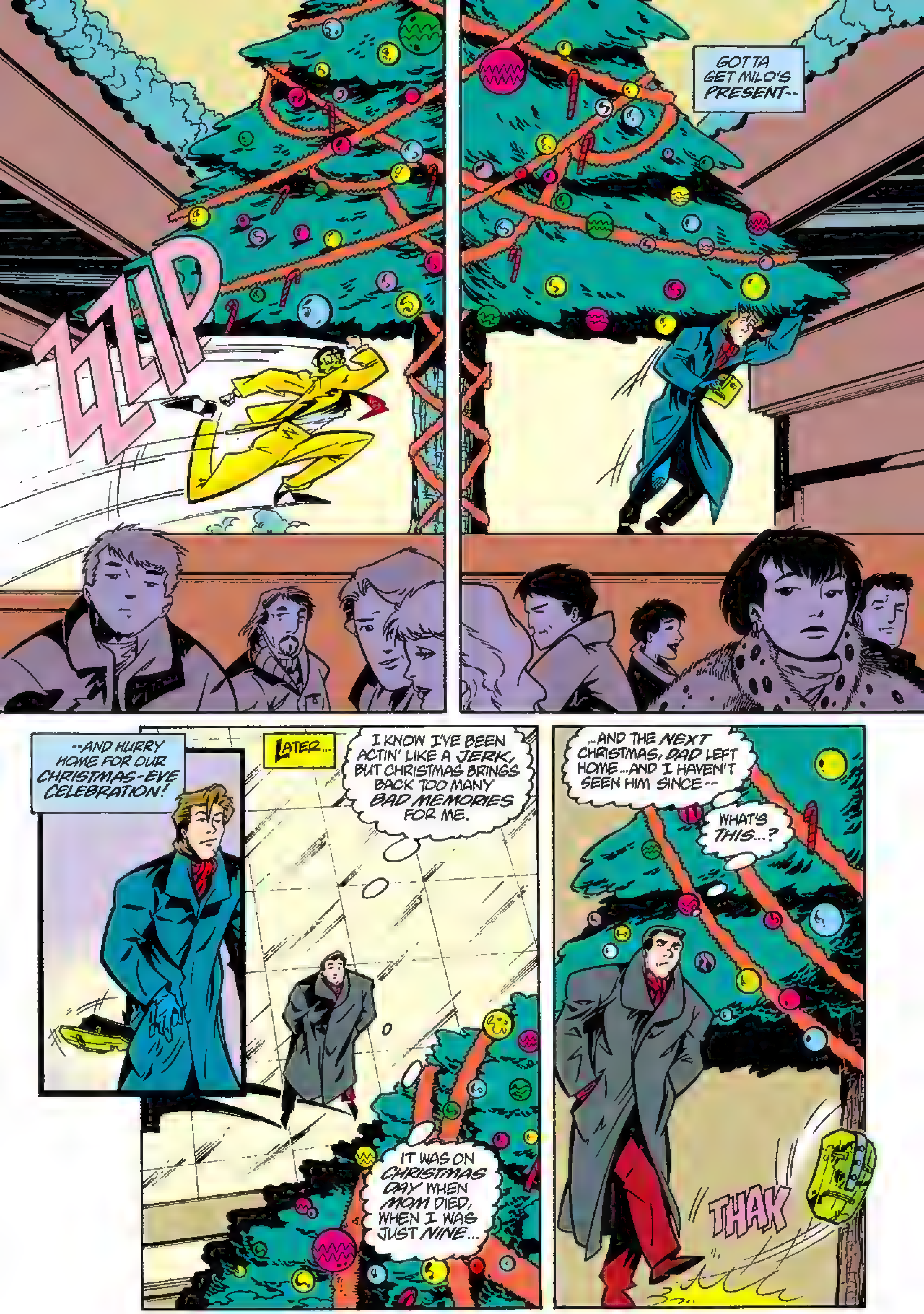
T'ANK YA, PALLY.
OH, WE *ALL* HAVE TO DO OUR PART. *RIGHT,* CHARLIE?
CHING CHING
STARVATION ARMY
NO WAY, STAN. YOU AIN'T CATCHIN' *ME* GIVIN' THOSE *BUMS* ANY HANDOUTS.
LET 'EM GET A *JOB* AND *WORK* FOR THEIR MONEY, LIKE *I* DID!
CHARLIE...!
LET'S *MOVE* IT, IPKISS! LIKE YOU *SAID,* WE GOT *SHOPPIN'* TO DO!
PLEASE FORGIVE MY FRIEND'S BEHAVIOR... uh, *SANTA.*
MERRY
GEE, *CHARLIE,* YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO *MOUTH OFF* AT THAT POOR MAN LIKE THAT...
I'VE HAD IT UP TO *HERE* WITH ALL THIS *CHRISTMAS-SPIRIT* JUNK, THIS SO-CALLED *HOLIDAY CHEER*... IN BELIEVIN' THAT SOME JOLLY OLD *FAT MAN'S* GONNA "MAKE THE SEASON BRIGHT"!
THE *ONLY* GOOD THING ABOUT THIS TIME A' THE YEAR--


..IS MY CHRISTMAS BONUS! NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT SHOPPING TO DO--
--FOR MYSELF!!
POOR CHARLIE...
...WONDER WHY HE HATES CHRISTMAS SO MUCH?
STOP!!
HUH?!
THAT MAN STOLE MY PURSE! STOP HIM!!
THAT WOMAN NEEDS HELP...
...AND SINCE I'M THE ONLY GUY IN THE MALL WHO'S GOT A SUPER-POWER-INDUCING MASK...
...I GUESS IT'S UP TO ME--

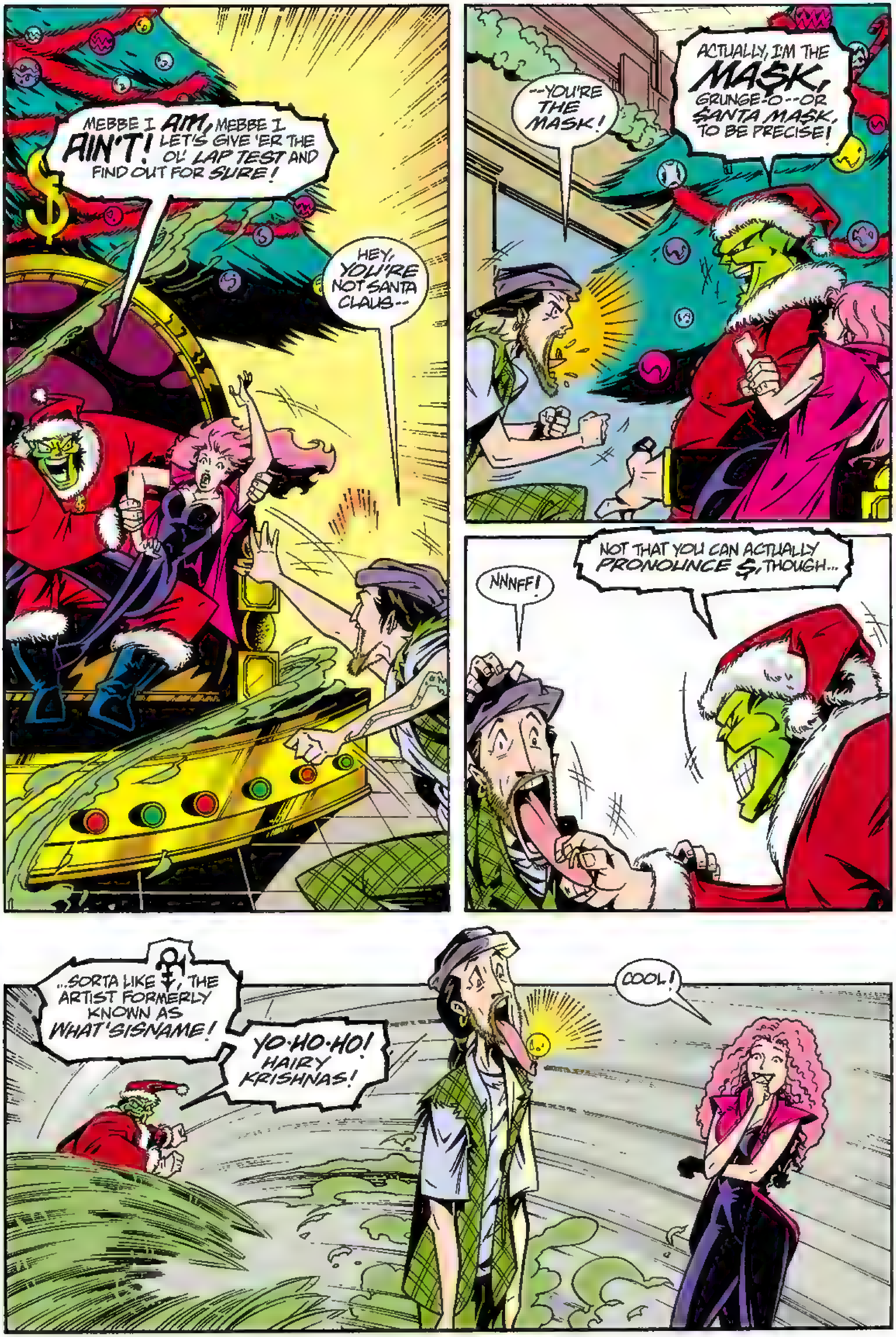
--AS THE MASK!
SSSMOKIN'!!
MAKIN' A CLEAN GETA-- UFF!
LISTEN UP, PUNK.
THIS IS A .357 CANDY CANE, THE SWEETEST OF ALL CHRISTMAS CONFECTIONS.
IT PACKS ENOUGH HIGH-FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP TO SEND YOUR BLOOD SUGAR SKY HIGH.
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO WITH THIS, PUNK? DO YA?

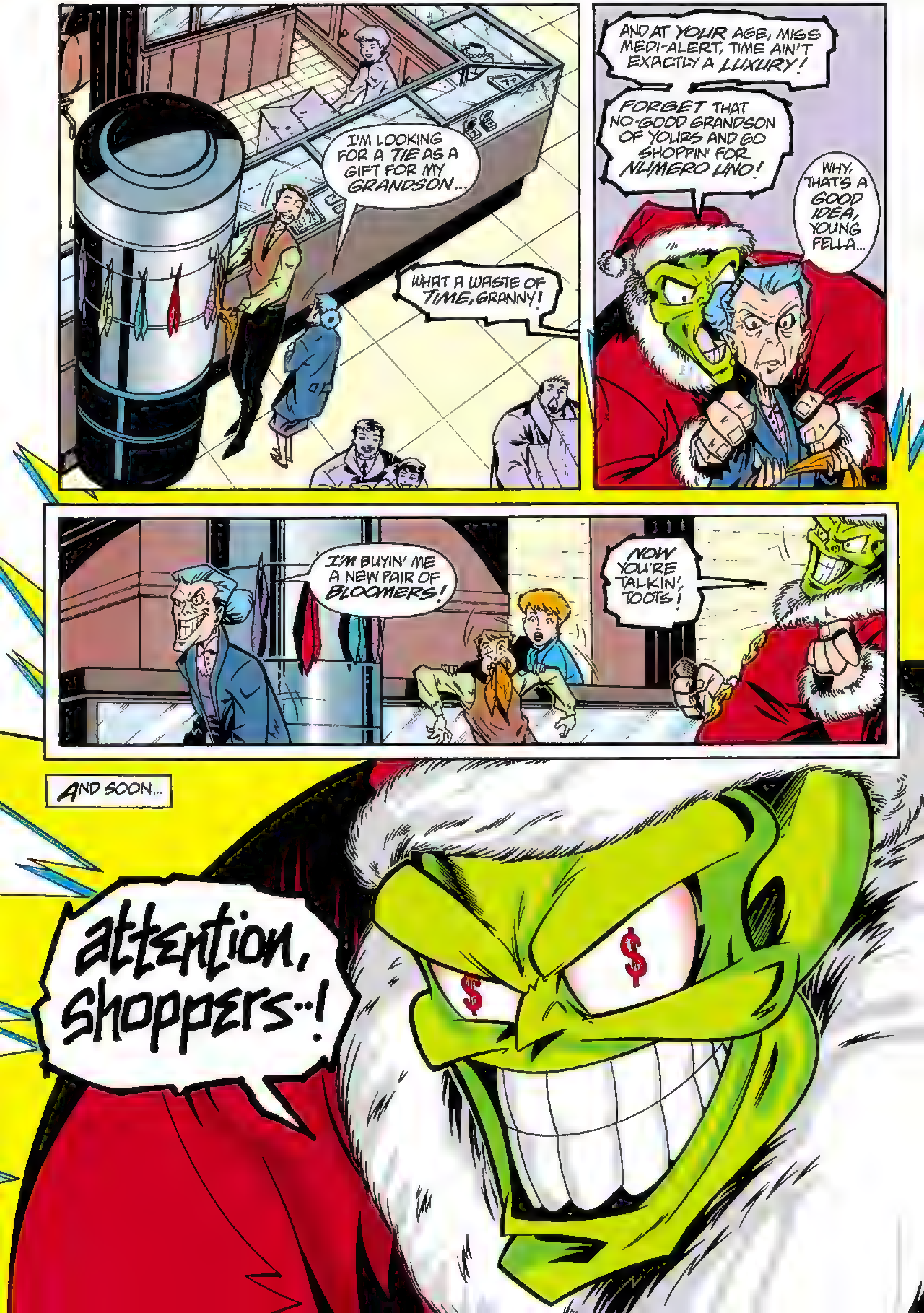

YOU'RE GONNA..
..EAT IT!
GULPFF!
EAT I-I-IT! EAT I-I-IT! ♫ PUT IT IN YOUR MOUTH ♪ AND EAT IT! ♪
YOU'RE LETTIN' THAT CREEP OFF PRETTY *EASY*, MASK!
YOU OUGHTTA USE THOSE *POWERS* OF YOURS TO TEACH THAT BUM A *LESSON*, ONCE AND FOR ALL.
YEAH. US DECENT, HARD-WORKING PEOPLE ARE *SICK* OF THIS KIND OF GARBAGE *STEALING* FROM US!
B-BUHT... WAY MINIT...
PTOUIE!


I...I'M SORRY I TOOK THIS LADY'S POCKETBOOK. I AIN'T REALLY A BAD PERSON, YA SEE. I JUST LOST MY JOB YEARS AGO, AND...
...WELL, I WAS HUNGRY, IS ALL.
PLEASE, FORGIVE ME.
TH-TH-THAT'S SO SAD...
SNIFF! CHOKE! SOB!
DON'T FALL FOR THAT-- IF HE'S ABLE TO RIP OFF A PURSE AND RUN FOR IT, HE'S ABLE TO WORK!
BUT HE'S HUNGRY, THE POOR DEAR, AND HE DIDN'T ACTUALLY GET AWAY WITH THIS THEFT...SO I WON'T PRESS CHARGES. IT IS CHRISTMAS, AFTER ALL.
THANKS, LADY.
YOU BLEEDIN' HEARTS MAKE ME SICK!
SIR, LET ME TREAT YOU TO DINNER. CARE TO JOIN US, MR. MASK?
frapp!
I'D LIKE TO, LADY, BUT-- YEEP! LOOK AT THE TIME! ONLY 7200 SHOPPING SECONDS TILL X-MAS!
CUCKOO! CUCKOO!
GOTTA RUN!

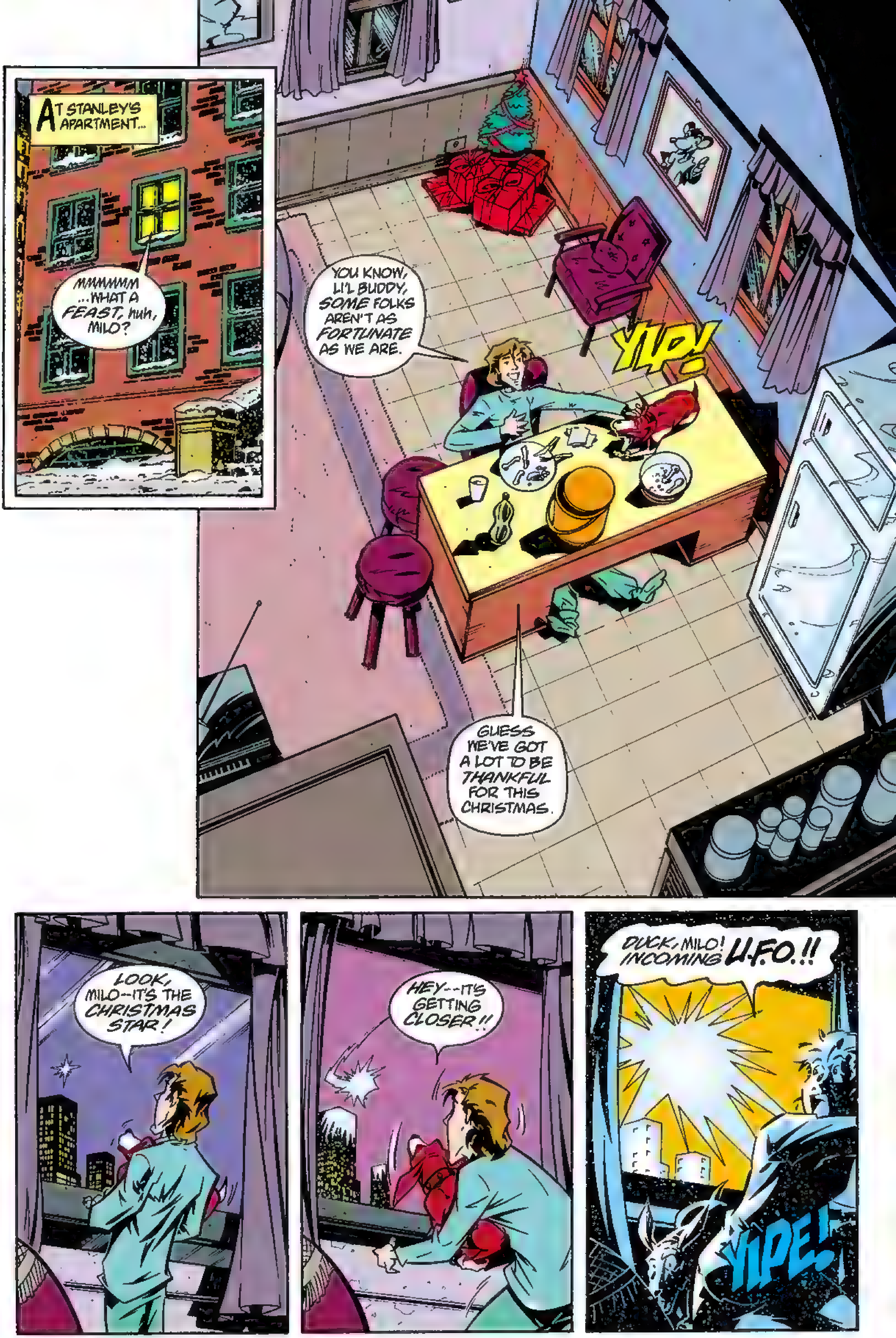

ZZIP
GOTTA GET MILO'S PRESENT--
--AND HURRY HOME FOR OUR CHRISTMAS-EVE CELEBRATION!
LATER...
I KNOW I'VE BEEN ACTIN' LIKE A JERK, BUT CHRISTMAS BRINGS BACK TOO MANY BAD MEMORIES FOR ME.
IT WAS ON CHRISTMAS DAY WHEN MOM DIED, WHEN I WAS JUST NINE...
...AND THE NEXT CHRISTMAS, DAD LEFT HOME...AND I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE--
WHAT'S THIS...?
THAK

A MASK. STRANGE-LOOKIN' THING.
MAYBE IF I WEAR IT, IT'LL HIDE MY HOLIDAY BLUES...
HLPME! GGGRNNCH!
Well, ain't that a stocking stuffer!
SANTA...??

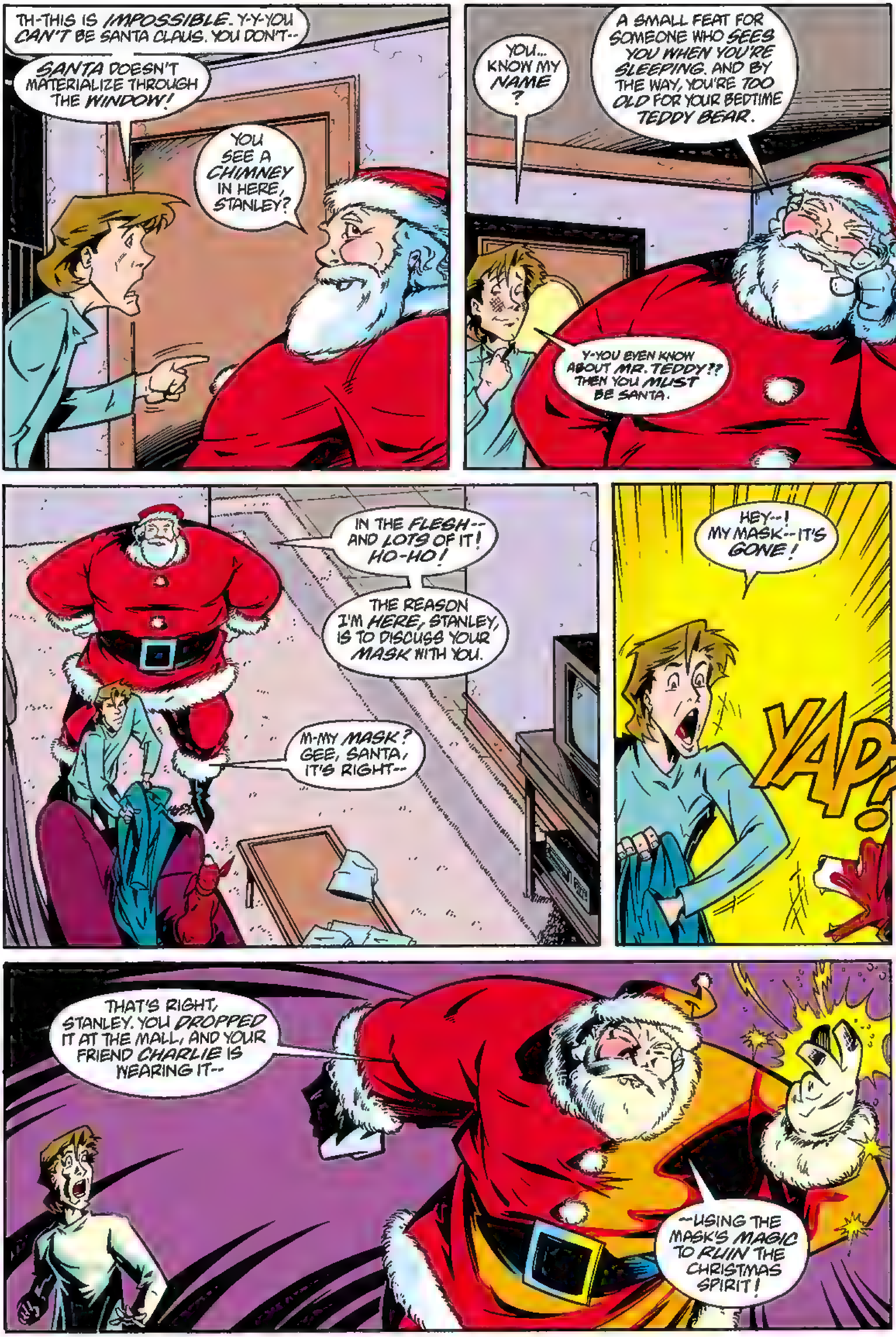

MEBBE I AM, MEBBE I AIN'T! LET'S GIVE 'ER THE OL' LAP TEST AND FIND OUT FOR SURE!
HEY, YOU'RE NOT SANTA CLAUS--
--YOU'RE THE MASK!
ACTUALLY, I'M THE MASK, GRUNGE-O--OR $ANTA MASK, TO BE PRECISE!
NNNFF!
NOT THAT YOU CAN ACTUALLY PRONOUNCE $, THOUGH...
...SORTA LIKE , THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS WHAT'SISNAME!
YO-HO-HO! HAIRY KRISHNAS!
COOL!


I'M LOOKING FOR A TIE AS A GIFT FOR MY GRANDSON...
WHAT A WASTE OF TIME, GRANNY!
AND AT YOUR AGE, MISS MEDI-ALERT, TIME AIN'T EXACTLY A LUXURY!
FORGET THAT NO-GOOD GRANDSON OF YOURS AND GO SHOPPIN' FOR NUMERO UNO!
WHY, THAT'S A GOOD IDEA, YOUNG FELLA...
I'M BUYIN' ME A NEW PAIR OF BLOOMERS!
NOW YOU'RE TALKIN', TOOTS!
AND SOON...
attention, shoppers..!

AREN'TCHA SICK A' BUSTIN' YOUR BOTTOMS SHOPPIN' FOR YOUR SO-CALLED LOVED ONES --
--THE SAME SLACKERS WHO'LL BE GIVIN' YOU THE CHEAPEST TRINKETS THEY CAN FIND?!
WHO NEEDS THOSE JERKS? MAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS MERRY BY BUYIN' THE STUFF YOU WANT FOR YOURSELF!
MAKES SENSE TO ME..
'TIS THE SEASON TO BE greedy!
I WANT A NECKLACE!
GIMME A NEW EASY CHAIR!
APPLIANCE LAND
BUCK SPORTING GOODS
DIAMONDS are forever

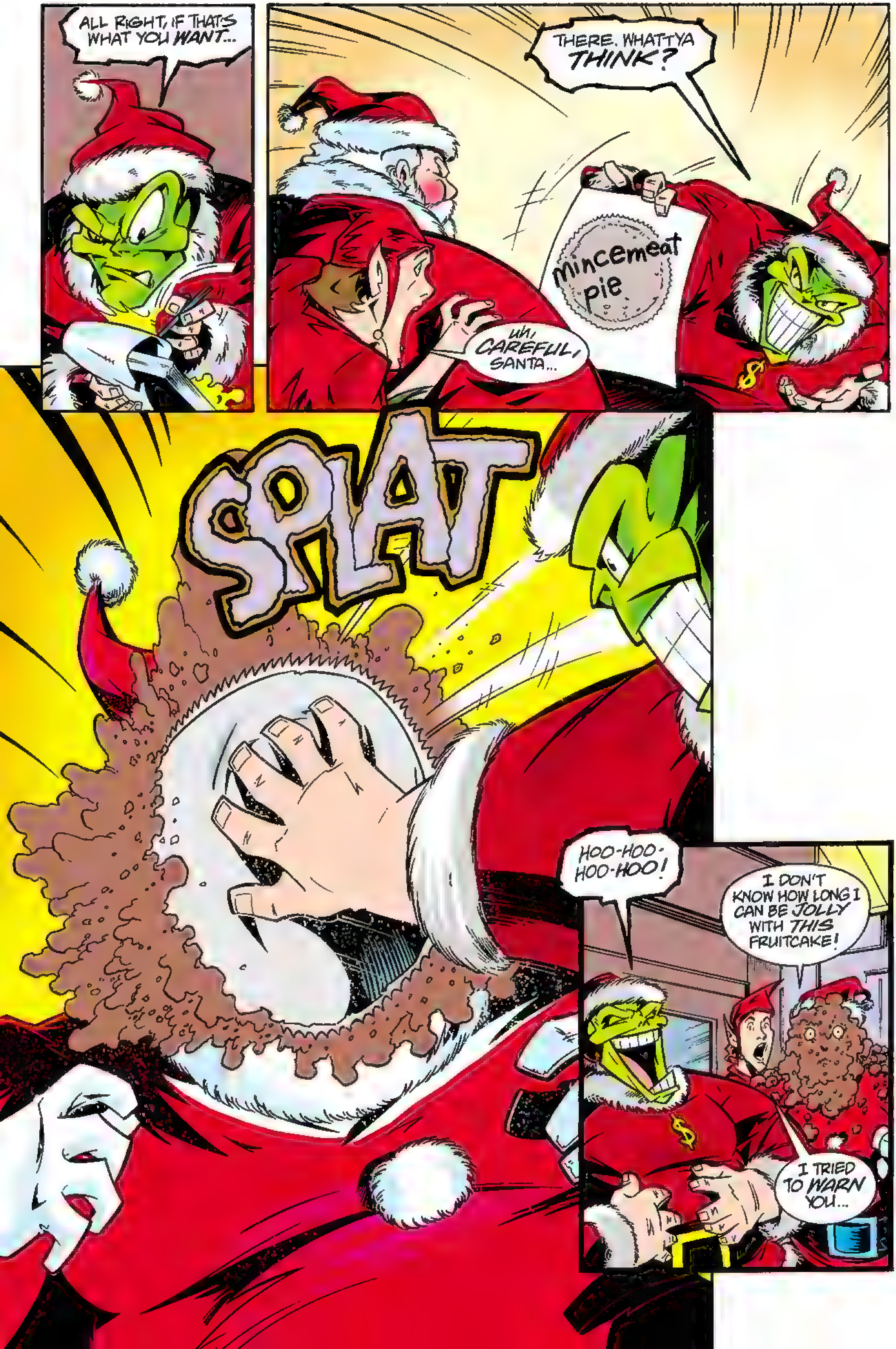

AT STANLEY'S APARTMENT...
MMMMMM ...WHAT A FEAST, huh, MILO?
YOU KNOW, LI'L BUDDY, SOME FOLKS AREN'T AS FORTUNATE AS WE ARE.
YIP!
GUESS WE'VE GOT A LOT TO BE THANKFUL FOR THIS CHRISTMAS.
LOOK, MILO--IT'S THE CHRISTMAS STAR!
HEY--IT'S GETTING CLOSER!!
DUCK, MILO! INCOMING U.F.O.!!
YIPE!

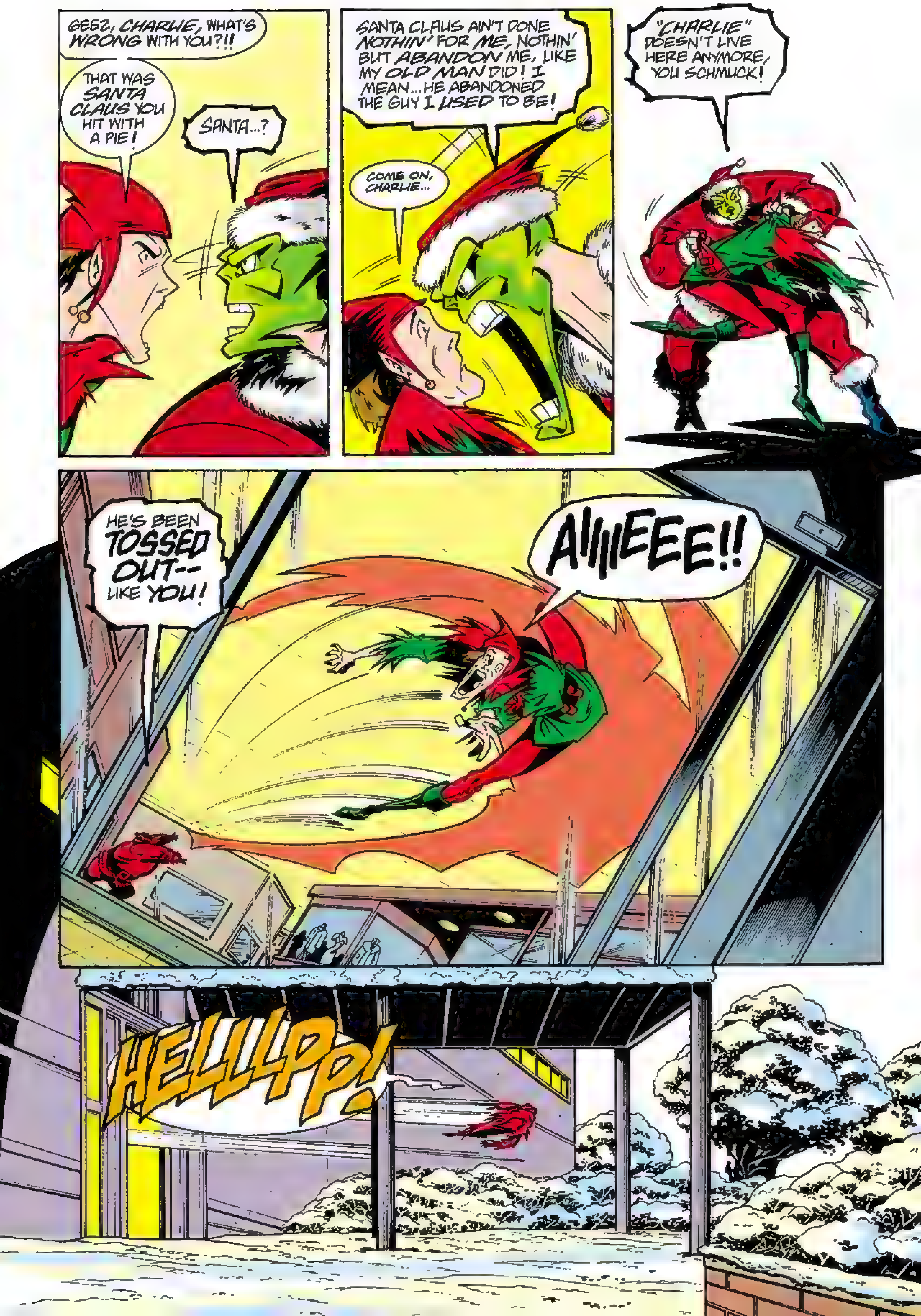
BELCH!
UH... KLAATU BARATA NIKTO? E.T. PHONE HOME?
'SCUSE ME... BUT THAT TYPE OF ENTRANCE... :URP!: ALWAYS GIVES OL' SANTA A TOUCH OF GAS! HO-HO-HO!
YAP!

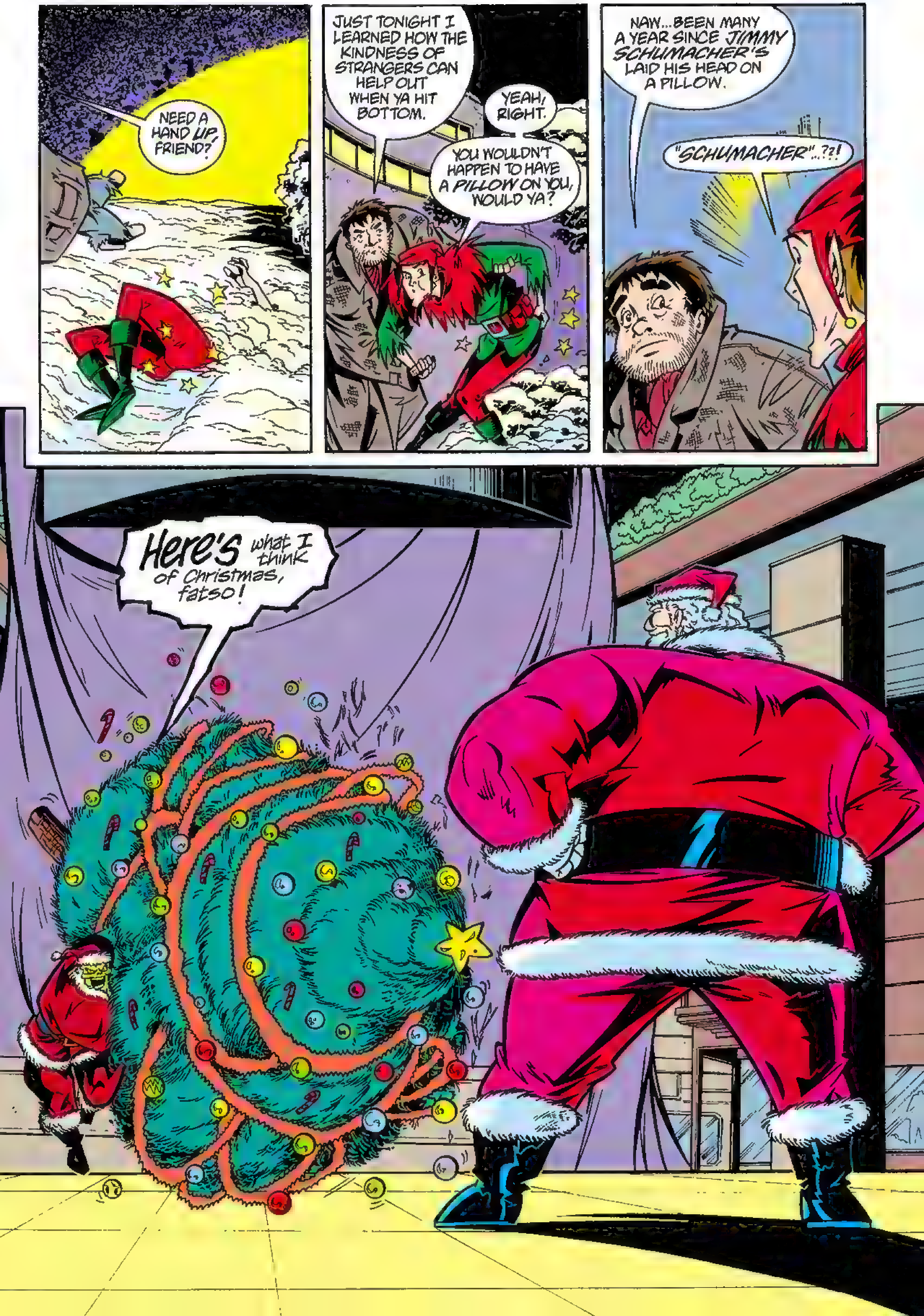

TH-THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE. Y-Y-YOU CAN'T BE SANTA CLAUS. YOU DON'T--
SANTA DOESN'T MATERIALIZE THROUGH THE WINDOW!
YOU SEE A CHIMNEY IN HERE, STANLEY?
YOU... KNOW MY NAME?
A SMALL FEAT FOR SOMEONE WHO SEES YOU WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPING. AND BY THE WAY, YOU'RE TOO OLD FOR YOUR BEDTIME TEDDY BEAR.
Y-YOU EVEN KNOW ABOUT MR. TEDDY?! THEN YOU MUST BE SANTA.
IN THE FLESH-- AND LOTS OF IT! HO-HO!
THE REASON I'M HERE, STANLEY, IS TO DISCUSS YOUR MASK WITH YOU.
M-MY MASK? GEE, SANTA, IT'S RIGHT--
HEY--! MY MASK--IT'S GONE!
YAP?
THAT'S RIGHT, STANLEY. YOU DROPPED IT AT THE MALL, AND YOUR FRIEND CHARLIE IS WEARING IT--
--USING THE MASK'S MAGIC TO RUIN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!

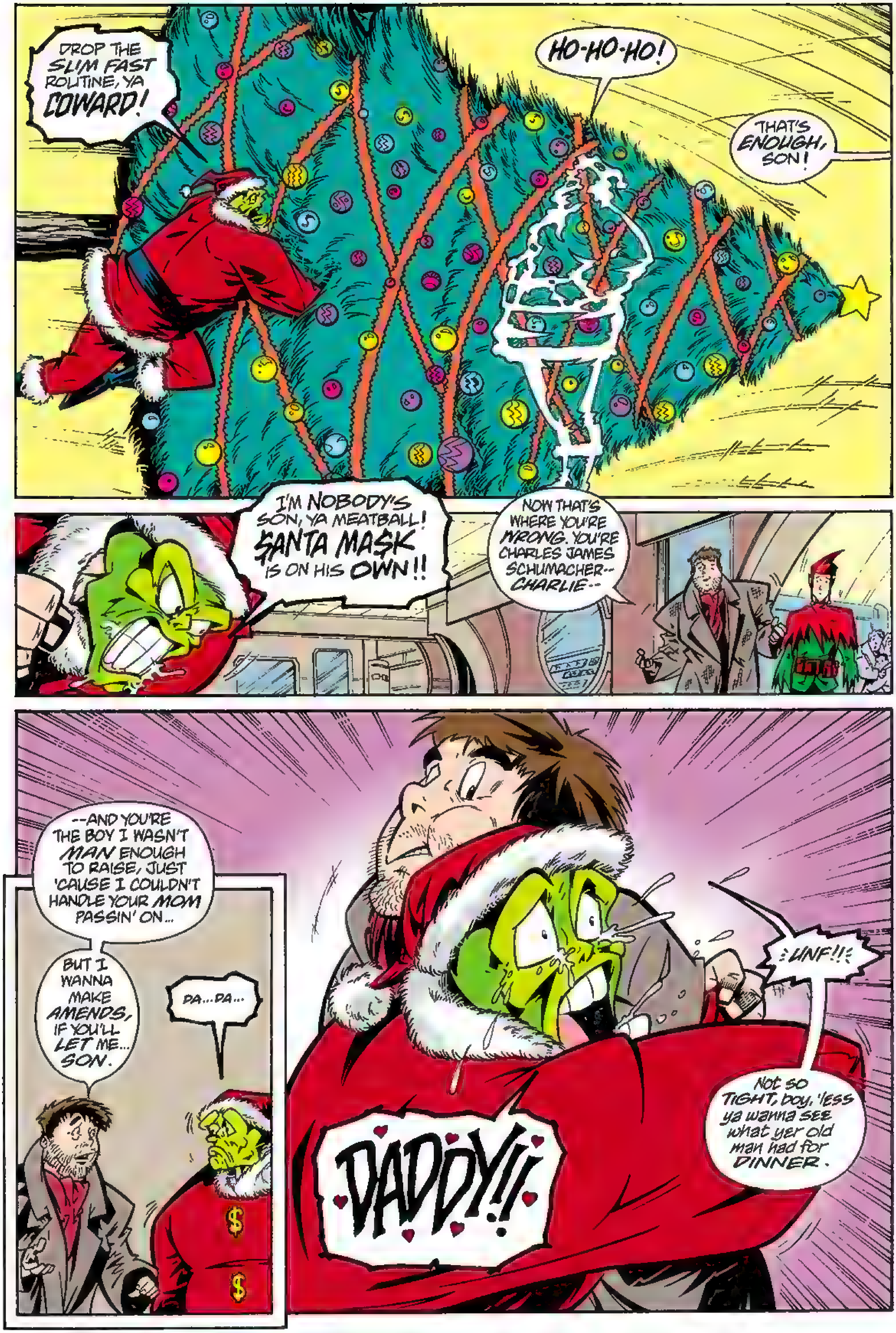
SANTA NEEDS YOUR *HELP*, STANLEY IPKISS ...YOURS *TOO*, MILO.
HUH?
YIP!
AWWW, SANTA... I HAVEN'T WORN *TIGHTS* SINCE MOM FORCED ME TO TAKE *BALLET*.
NOW THAT YOU BOYS ARE DRESSED FOR *ACTION*, IT'S TIME TO KICK SOME *YULETIDE HIDE*!
HO HO HO!
HO-HO-HELP.

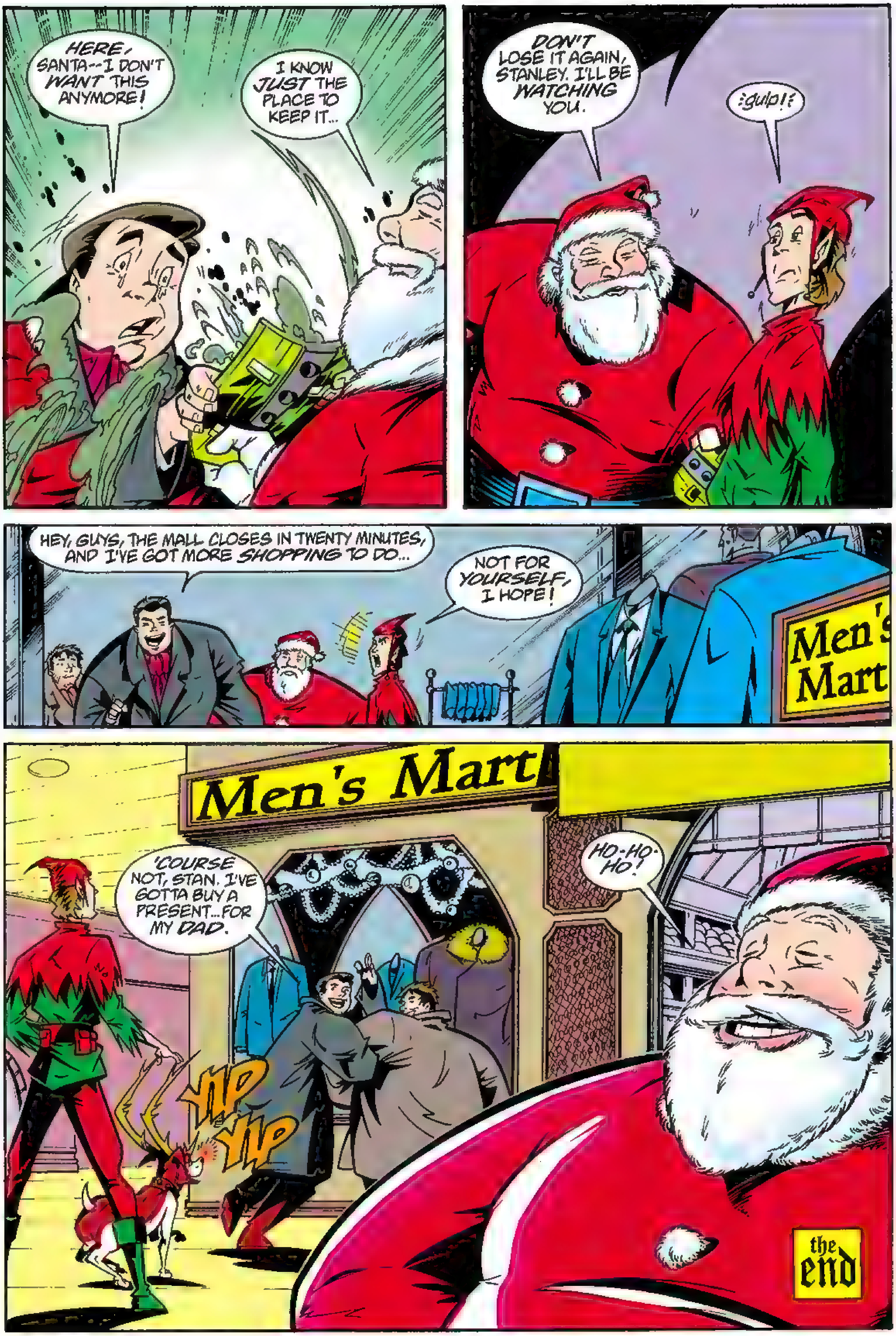
WE COULD'VE TAKEN MY CAR, YOU KNOW...
SORRY, STAN, BUT THIS IS THE FASTEST WAY THERE...
"...AND ON MY BUSIEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR, OL' SANTA'S GOTTA HAUL IT!"
THAT'S IT, KIDDIES--IF YOU WANT IT, GET IT YOURSELVES!
we be toys
THE LAST THING THIS HOLIDAY NEEDS IS ANOTHER STRANGELY GARBED ICON WITH POOR DIETARY HABITS--
we be toys
YEEGAH!
--SO DRAW!!
"DRAW"?
RRRR


ALL RIGHT, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU *WANT*...
THERE. WHATTYA *THINK*?
mincemeat pie
uh, CAREFUL, SANTA...
SPLAT
HOO-HOO-HOO-HOO!
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN BE *JOLLY* WITH *THIS* FRUITCAKE!
I TRIED TO *WARN* YOU...


GEEZ, CHARLIE, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!!
THAT WAS SANTA CLAUS YOU HIT WITH A PIE!
SANTA...?
SANTA CLAUS AIN'T DONE NOTHIN' FOR ME, NOTHIN' BUT ABANDON ME, LIKE MY OLD MAN DID! I MEAN... HE ABANDONED THE GUY I USED TO BE!
COME ON, CHARLIE...
"CHARLIE" DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE, YOU SCHMUCK!
HE'S BEEN TOSSED OUT-- LIKE YOU!
AIIIEEE!!
HELLLPP!


NEED A HAND *UP*, FRIEND?
JUST TONIGHT I LEARNED HOW THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS CAN HELP OUT WHEN YA HIT BOTTOM.
YEAH, RIGHT.
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE A *PILLOW* ON YOU, WOULD YA?
NAW... BEEN MANY A YEAR SINCE *JIMMY SCHUMACHER'S* LAID HIS HEAD ON A PILLOW.
"*SCHUMACHER*"...?!
Here's what I think of Christmas, fatso!


DROP THE SLIM FAST ROUTINE, YA COWARD!
HO-HO-HO!
THAT'S ENOUGH, SON!
I'M NOBODY'S SON, YA MEATBALL! SANTA MASK IS ON HIS OWN!!
NOW THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG. YOU'RE CHARLES JAMES SCHUMACHER-- CHARLIE--
--AND YOU'RE THE BOY I WASN'T MAN ENOUGH TO RAISE, JUST 'CAUSE I COULDN'T HANDLE YOUR MOM PASSIN' ON...
BUT I WANNA MAKE AMENDS, IF YOU'LL LET ME... SON.
DA...DA...
UNF!!
Not so TIGHT, boy, 'less ya wanna see what yer old man had for DINNER.
DADDY!!


HERE, SANTA--I DON'T *WANT* THIS ANYMORE!
I KNOW *JUST* THE PLACE TO KEEP IT...
DON'T LOSE IT AGAIN, STANLEY. I'LL BE *WATCHING* YOU.
:gulp!:
HEY, GUYS, THE MALL CLOSES IN TWENTY MINUTES, AND I'VE GOT MORE *SHOPPING* TO DO...
NOT FOR *YOURSELF*, I HOPE!
Men's Mart
Men's Mart
'COURSE NOT, STAN. I'VE GOTTA BUY A PRESENT...FOR MY *DAD*.
HO-HO-HO!
YIP YIP
the end

TRIAL OF THE MASK

ORDER! ORDER IN THE COURT!
I GOT YER ORDER RIGHT HERE!
MARC CAMPOS

script
MICHAEL EURY

art
MARC CAMPOS

colors
PERRY McNAMEE

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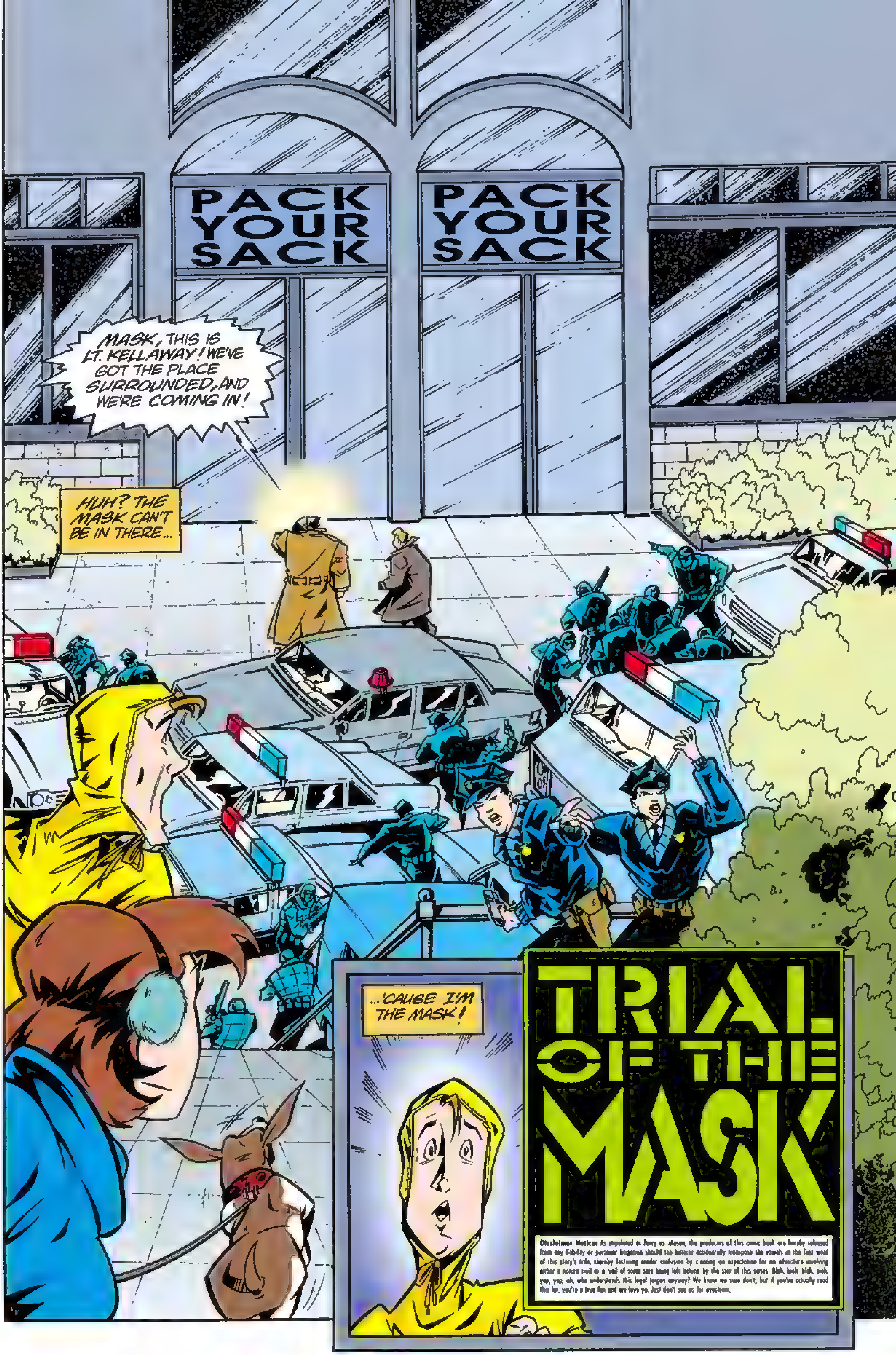
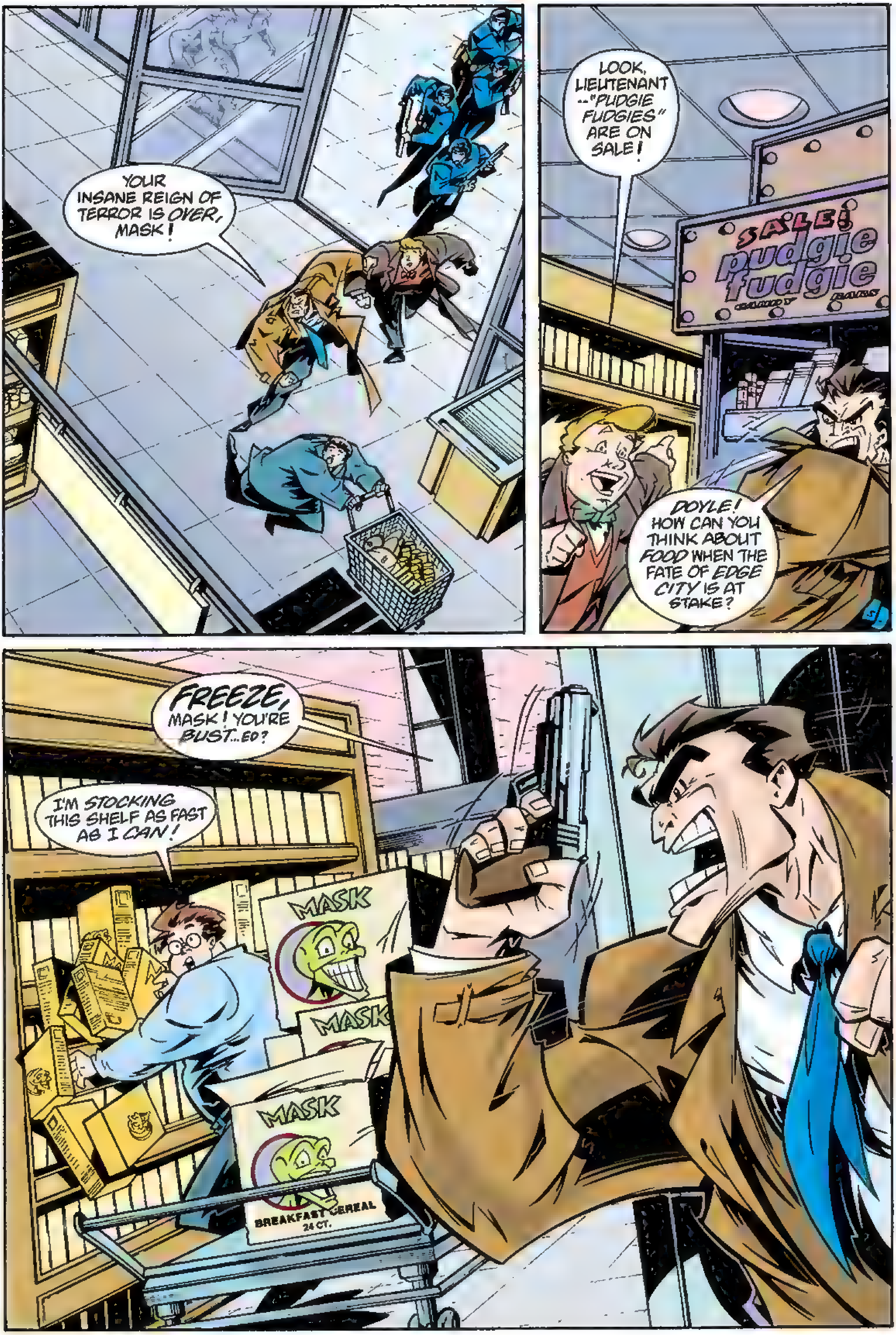
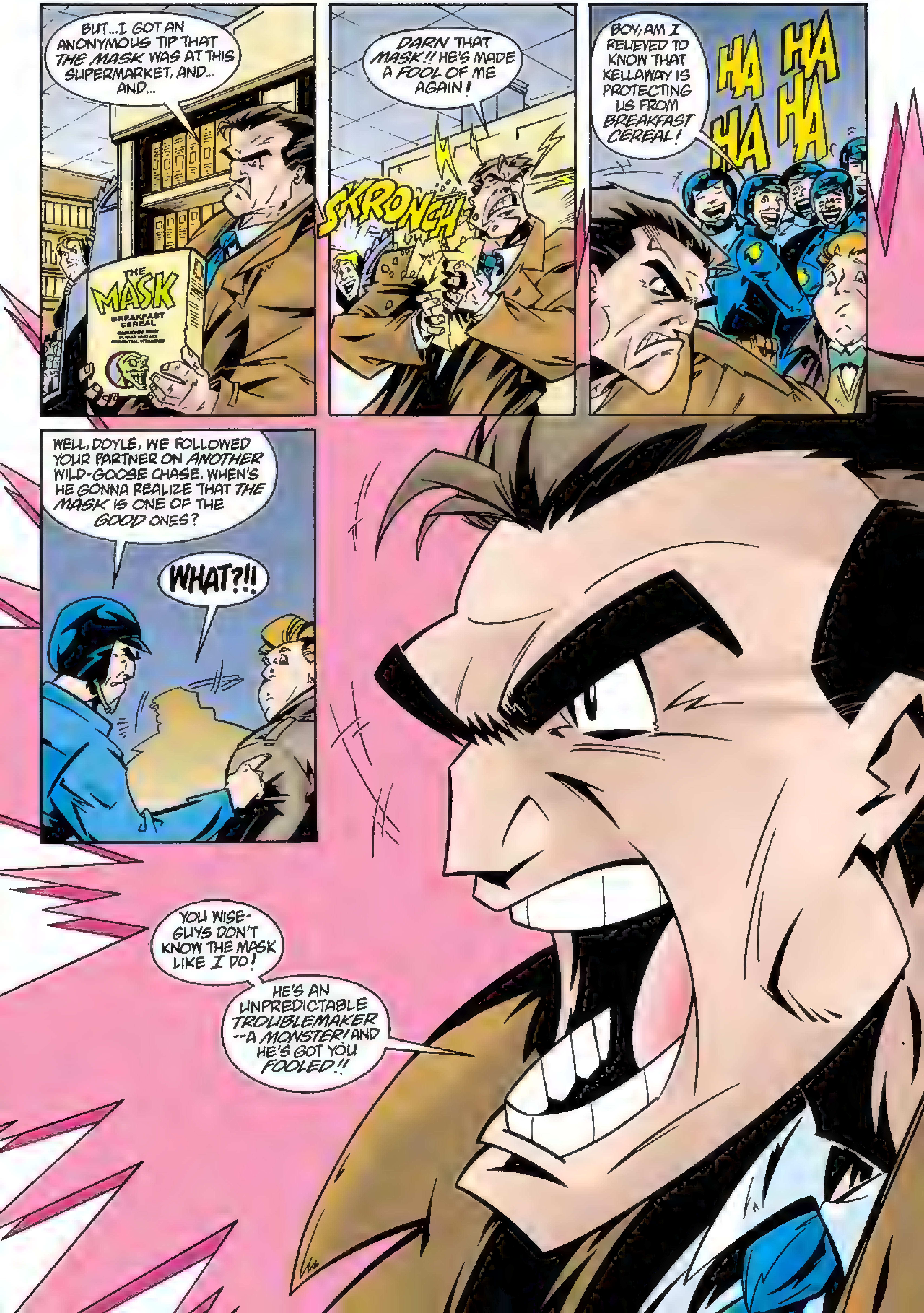
title illustration
MARC CAMPOS and MATT WEBB

STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
HUFF! WHEEZ!
ON A COLD WINTER DAY, NOTHING GETS THE OLD BLOOD PUMPING BETTER THAN A BRISK JOG WITH MY DOG, MILO.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT MY FRIEND PEGGY TELLS ME.
COME ON, STANLEY!
HUFF HUFF HACK!!
EEOoOEEEOOOEEE
VROOM
WOW! I HAVEN'T SEEN THIS MANY COPS SINCE THAT EXOTIC DANCER COMPETITION AT THE COCO BONGO CLUB! WONDER WHAT'S UP?
SWAT
EDGE CITY POLICE DEPT.


PACK YOUR SACK
PACK YOUR SACK
MASK, THIS IS LT. KELLAWAY! WE'VE GOT THE PLACE SURROUNDED, AND WE'RE COMING IN!
HUH? THE MASK CAN'T BE IN THERE...
...'CAUSE I'M THE MASK!
TRIAL OF THE MASK
Disclaimer Notice: As stipulated in Perry vs. Mason, the producers of this comic book are hereby released from any liability or pursuant litigation should the letterer accidentally transpose the vowels in the last word of this story's title, thereby fostering reader confusion by creating an expectation for an adventure involving either a moose trail or a hat of some sort being left behind by the star of this series. Blah, blah, blah, blah, yap, yap, uh, who understands this legal jargon anyway? We know we sure don't, but if you've actually read this far, you're a true fan and we love ya. Just don't sue us for eyestrain.

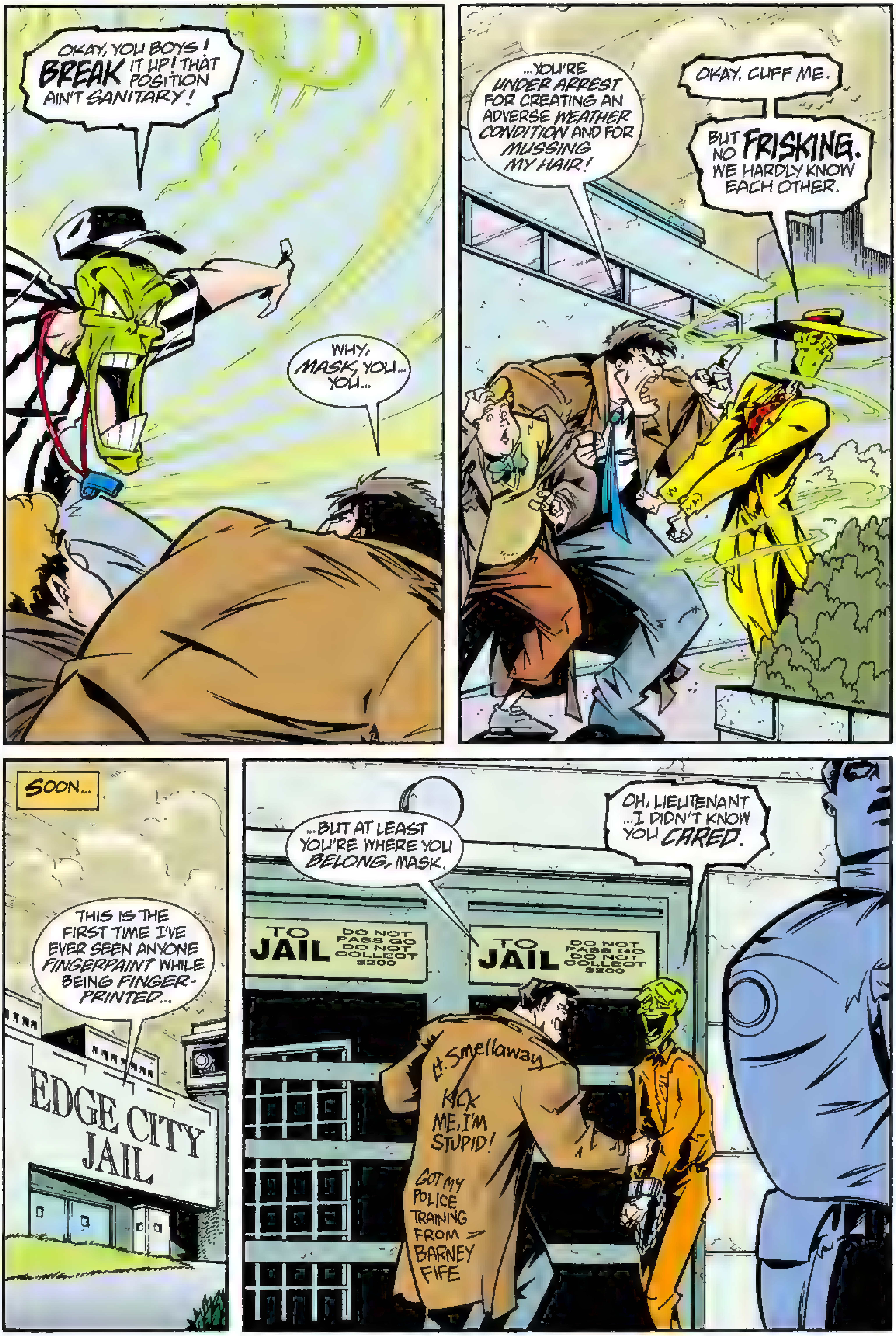

YOUR INSANE REIGN OF TERROR IS *OVER*, MASK!
LOOK, LIEUTENANT --"PUDGIE FUDGIES" ARE ON SALE!
SALE!
pudgie fudgie
CANDY BARS
DOYLE! HOW CAN YOU THINK ABOUT *FOOD* WHEN THE FATE OF *EDGE CITY* IS AT STAKE?
FREEZE, MASK! YOU'RE *BUST*...ED?
I'M *STOCKING* THIS SHELF AS FAST AS I *CAN*!
MASK
MASK
MASK
BREAKFAST CEREAL
24 CT.

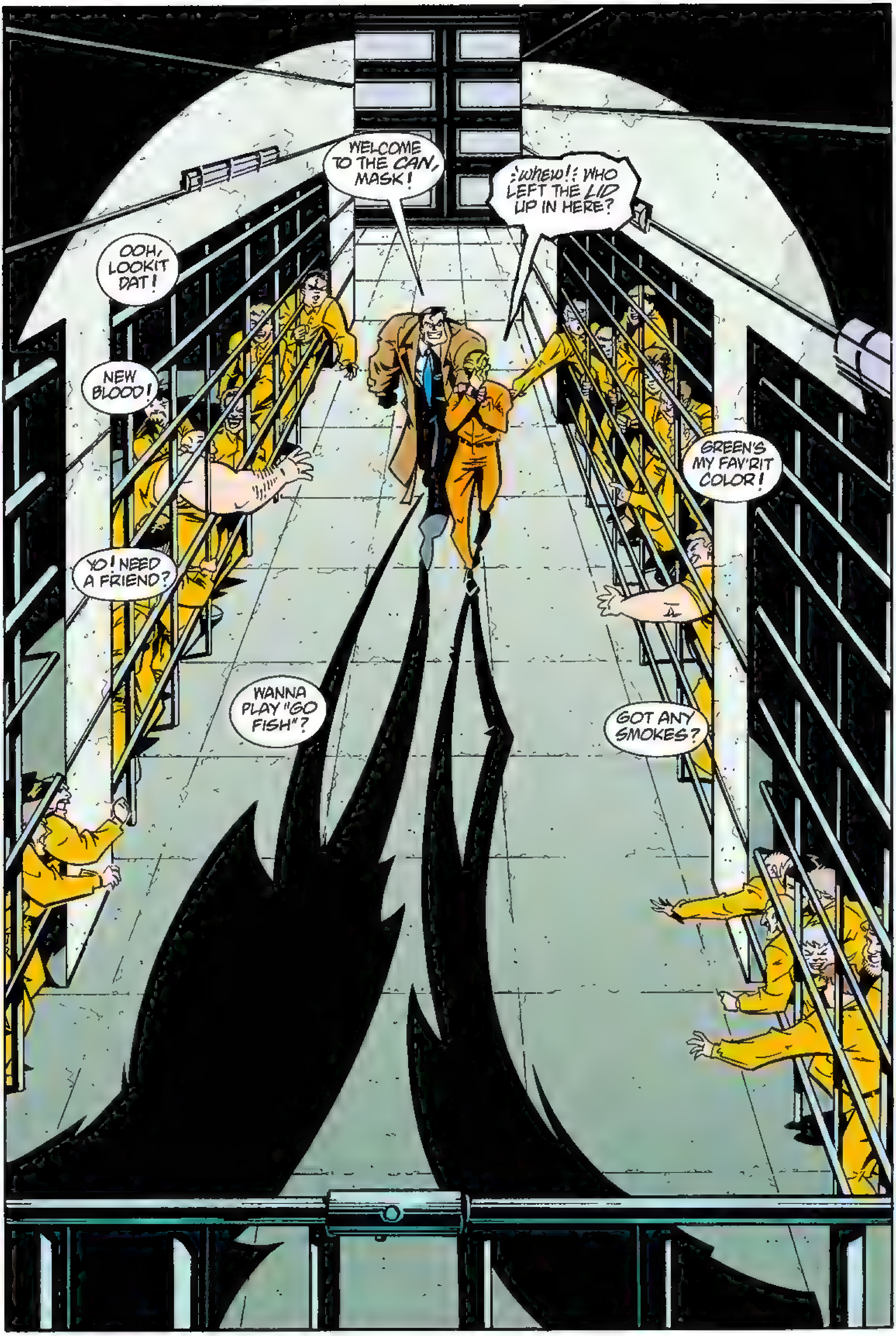

BUT...I GOT AN ANONYMOUS TIP THAT *THE MASK* WAS AT THIS SUPERMARKET, AND.. AND...
THE MASK BREAKFAST CEREAL
DARN THAT MASK!! HE'S MADE A *FOOL* OF ME AGAIN!
SKRONCH
BOY, AM I RELIEVED TO KNOW THAT KELLAWAY IS PROTECTING US FROM *BREAKFAST CEREAL!*
HA HA HA HA
WELL, DOYLE, WE FOLLOWED YOUR PARTNER ON *ANOTHER* WILD-GOOSE CHASE. WHEN'S HE GONNA REALIZE THAT *THE MASK* IS ONE OF THE *GOOD* ONES?
WHAT?!!
YOU WISE-GUYS DON'T KNOW THE MASK LIKE *I* DO!
HE'S AN UNPREDICTABLE *TROUBLEMAKER* --A *MONSTER!* AND HE'S GOT YOU *FOOLED!!*

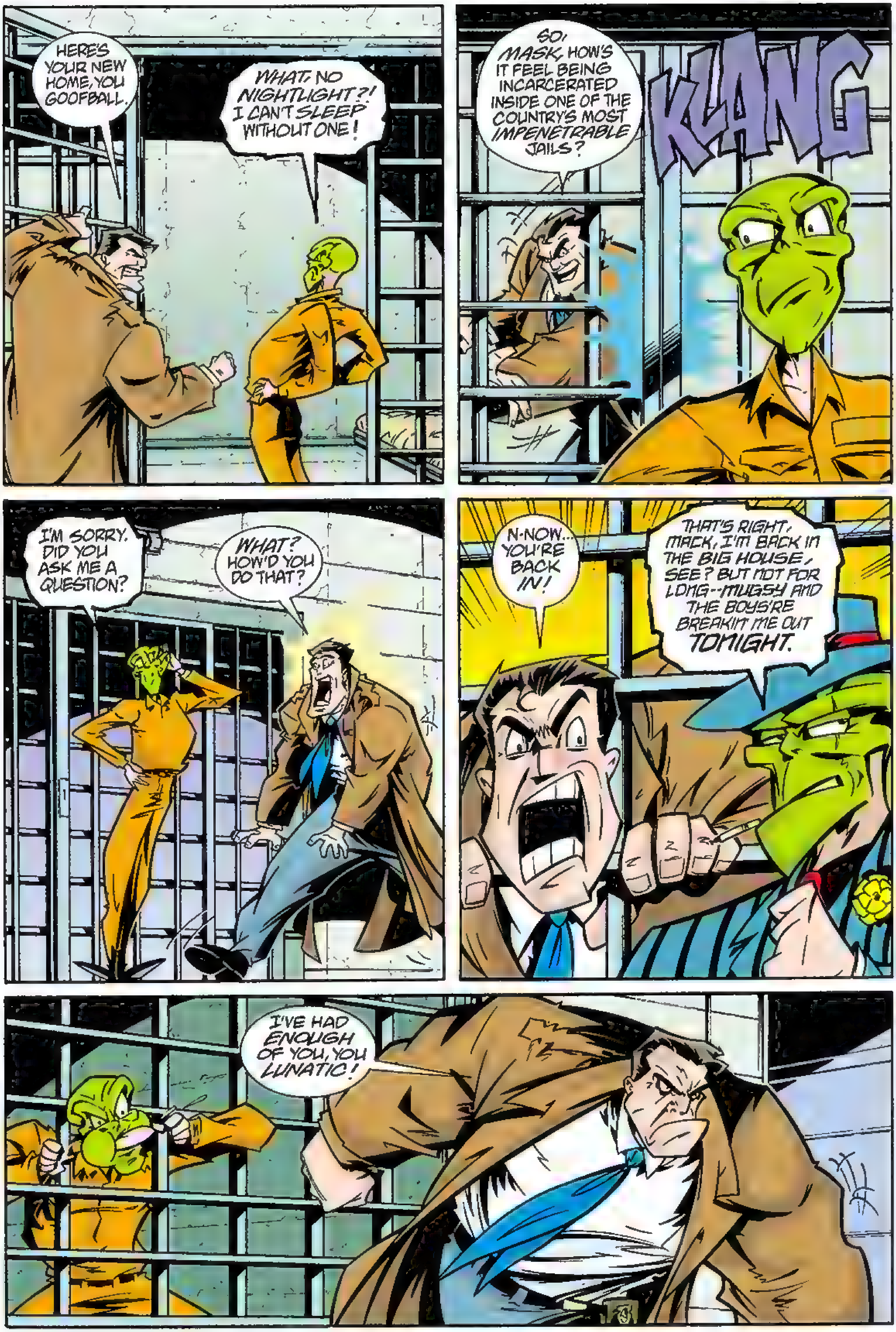
YEAH. SURE, KELLAWAY.
DON'T HESITATE TO CALL US IF CAP'N CRUNCH GOES ON A RAMPAGE!
HAHAHAHA
heh-heh. GOT WHAT'S COMING TO HIM, THE BIG JERK.
ESPECIALLY AFTER ALL THE GRIEF HE'S GIVEN ME, JUST 'CAUSE HE SUSPECTS I'M THE MASK.
PACK YOUR SACK
SNRRRG
GEEZ, MILO, DON'T BITE MY HEAD OFF. YOU'RE RIGHT--
--KELLAWAY HAS FEELINGS, TOO. AND I'LL BET HE'S DOWN IN THE DUMPS RIGHT NOW.
THEN HELP BOOST HIS EGO BY LETTING HIM CAPTURE THE MASK!
YOU'LL DO A GOOD DEED --AND I'LL GET A SCOOP FOR MY NEWSPAPER!
CAPTURE...? ARE YOU FOR REAL?
YIP!
BUT MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, PEGGY. IT'LL DO THE OLD BOY GOOD TO BAG THE MASK.
AND YOU KNOW, A FEW NIGHTS IN JAIL WOULDN'T BE SO BAD-- THREE SQUARE MEALS A DAY, ALWAYS SOMEONE IN THE SHOWER TO SCRUB YOUR BACK...

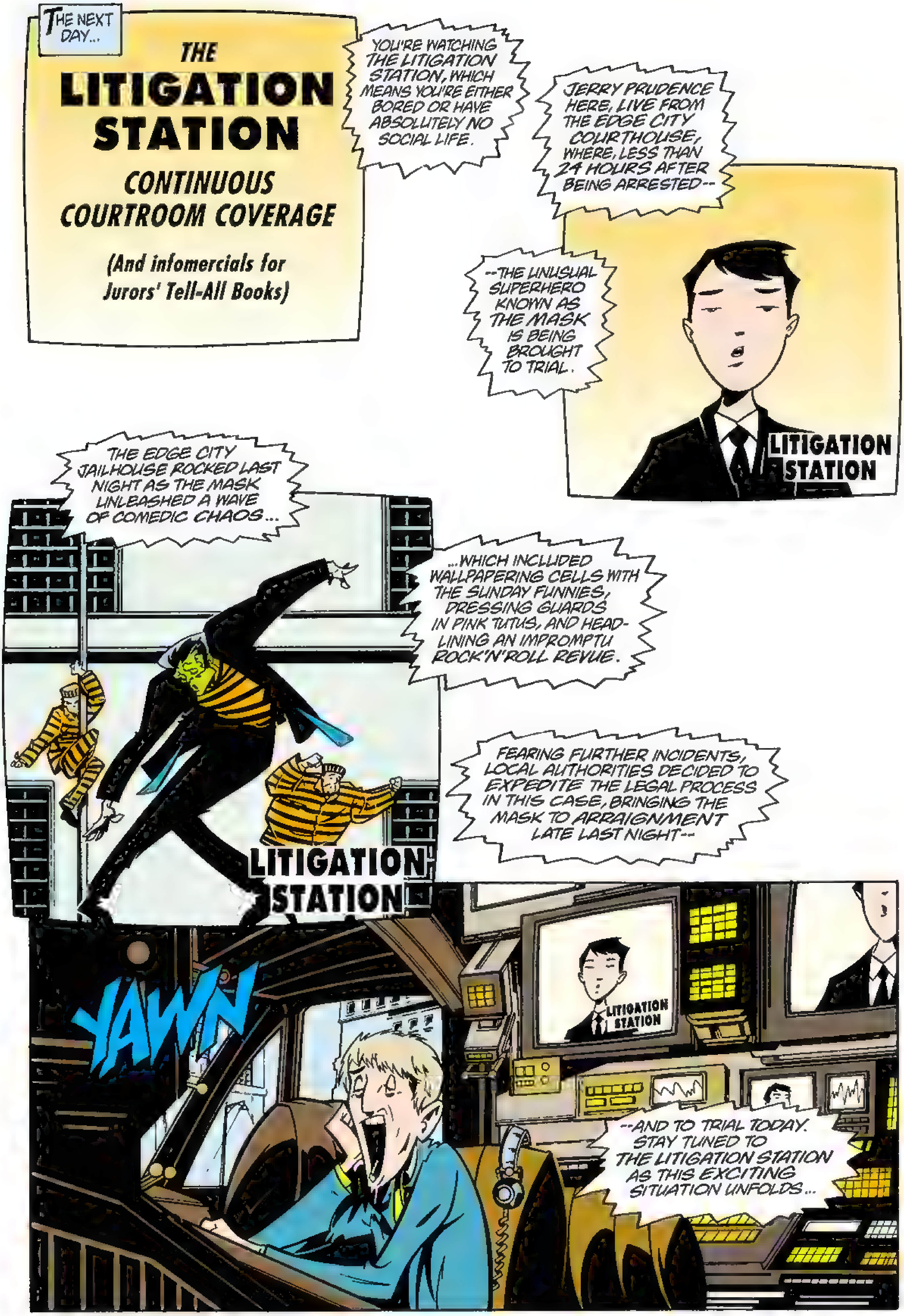
PEGGY, I WANT YOU TO TAKE CARE OF *MILO* FOR A WHILE.
AND TELL MY BOSS I HAD TO GO OUT OF TOWN... *INDEFINITELY.* I'VE GOT THE *VACATION* TIME COMING.
THE MASK *WILL* GIVE ME AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW, *RIGHT,* STANLEY...?
SORRY, PEGGY, BUT GIVING YOUR TABLOID ANOTHER HEADLINE IS THE *LEAST* OF MY CONCERNS.
I NEED TO PERFORM AN ACT OF KINDNESS BY MAKING A NUISANCE OF MYSELF--
--AS THE MASK!
LOCK YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS, GOOD CITIZENS, 'CAUSE I'M FEELIN' LIKE A LITTLE *MISCHIEF!*
CHEER UP, LIEUTENANT. HERE, WANT A *BITE?*
NO THANKS, DOYLE. THE ONLY THING THAT'D MAKE ME HAPPY WOULD BE *LOCKING UP* THE MASK!
YEAH, LIKE HE'S JUST GONNA SHOW UP, ASKING FOR IT...

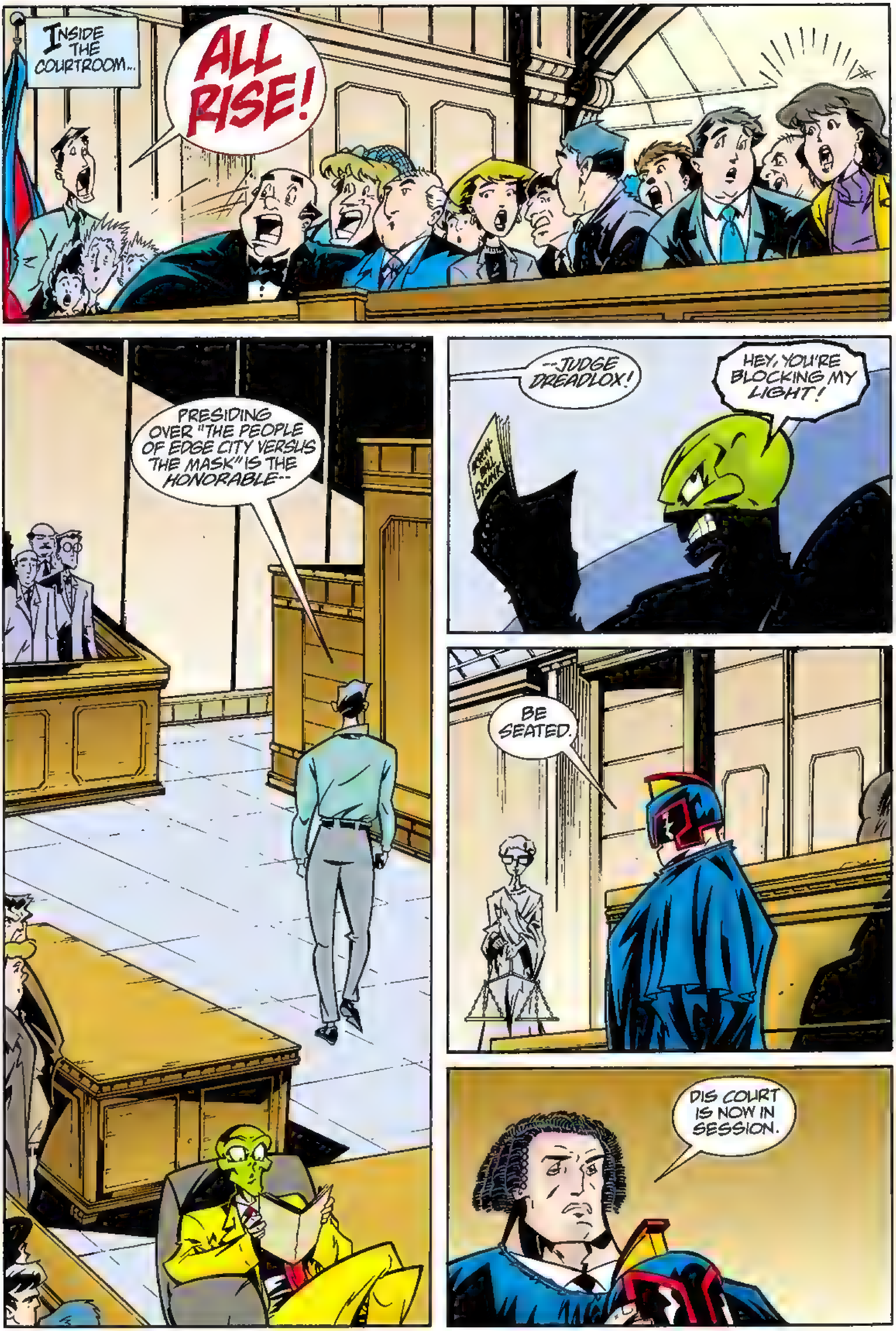
SWOOSH
FROM THE PRODUCERS OF "JURASSIC PARK" AND THE DIRECTOR OF "SPEED"--
--IT'S TWISTER!!
YOUR MOVE, LT. KELLAWAY. RIGHT FOOT RED!
YOU'D BETTER CUT IT OUT, YOU WACKO!

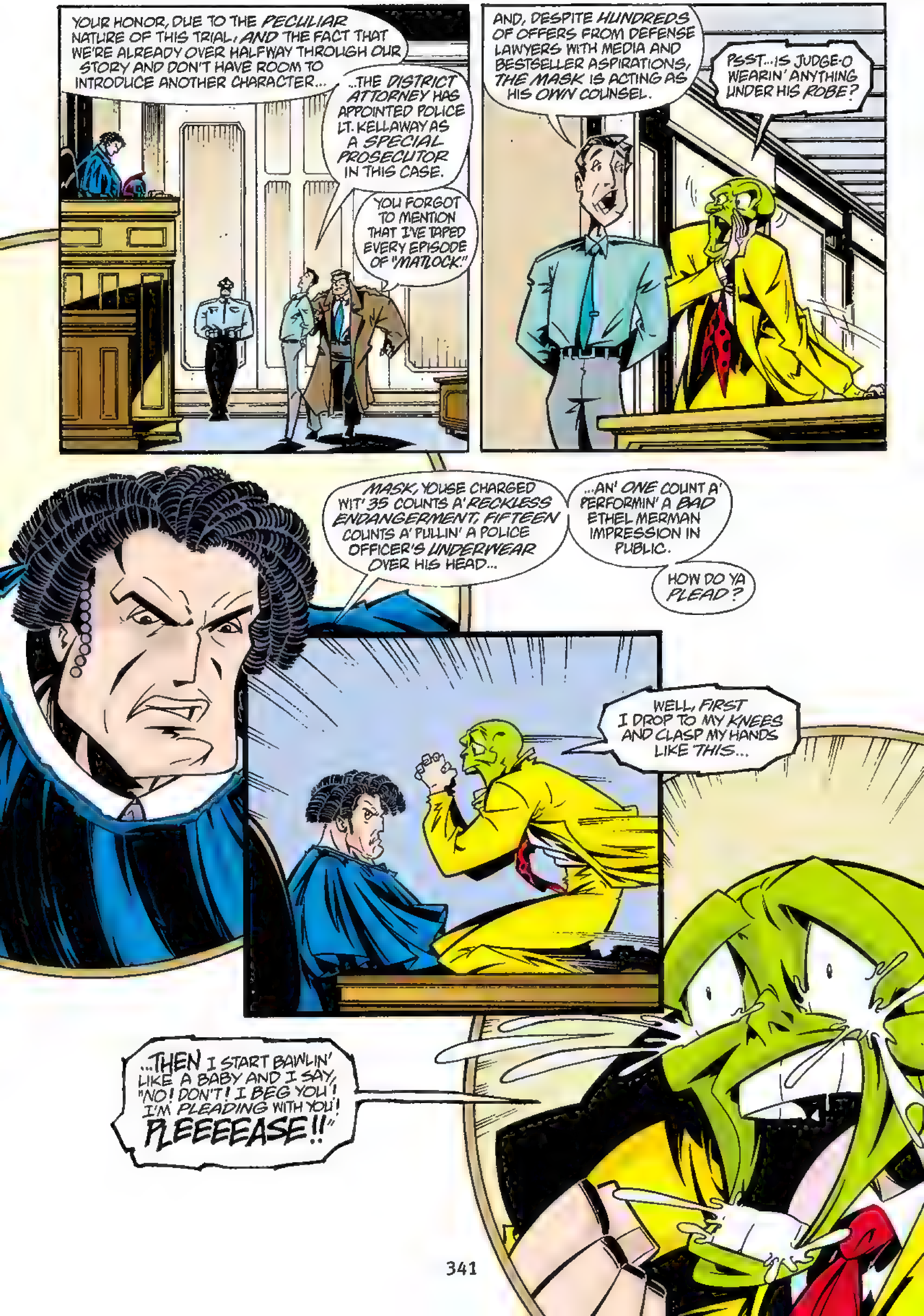

OKAY, YOU BOYS! BREAK IT UP! THAT POSITION AIN'T SANITARY!
WHY, MASK, YOU... YOU...
...YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR CREATING AN ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITION AND FOR MUSSING MY HAIR!
OKAY. CUFF ME.
BUT NO FRISKING. WE HARDLY KNOW EACH OTHER.
SOON...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN ANYONE FINGERPAINT WHILE BEING FINGER-PRINTED...
EDGE CITY JAIL
...BUT AT LEAST YOU'RE WHERE YOU BELONG, MASK.
OH, LIEUTENANT ...I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED.
TO JAIL DO NOT PASS GO DO NOT COLLECT $200
TO JAIL DO NOT PASS GO DO NOT COLLECT $200
Lt. Smellaway
KICK ME, I'M STUPID!
GOT MY POLICE TRAINING FROM BARNEY FIFE

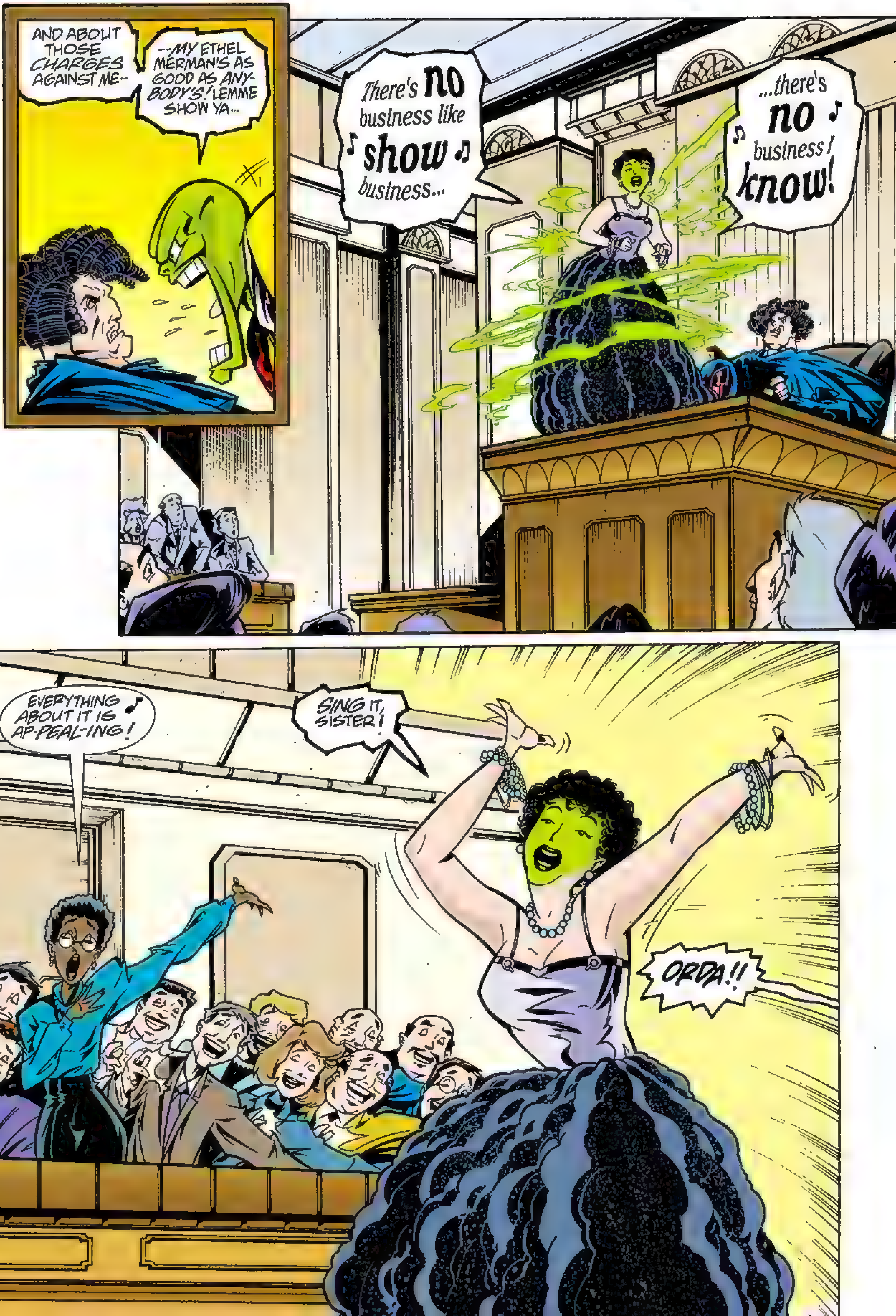

WELCOME TO THE *CAN*, MASK!
:WHEW!: WHO LEFT THE *LID* UP IN HERE?
OOH, LOOKIT DAT!
NEW BLOOD!
GREEN'S MY FAV'RIT COLOR!
YO! NEED A FRIEND?
WANNA PLAY "GO FISH"?
GOT ANY SMOKES?


HERE'S YOUR NEW HOME, YOU GOOFBALL.
WHAT, NO NIGHTLIGHT?! I CAN'T SLEEP WITHOUT ONE!
SO, MASK, HOW'S IT FEEL BEING INCARCERATED INSIDE ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST IMPENETRABLE JAILS?
KLANG
I'M SORRY. DID YOU ASK ME A QUESTION?
WHAT? HOW'D YOU DO THAT?
N-NOW.. YOU'RE BACK IN!
THAT'S RIGHT, MACK, I'M BACK IN THE BIG HOUSE, SEE? BUT NOT FOR LONG--MUGSY AND THE BOYS'RE BREAKIN' ME OUT TONIGHT.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU, YOU LUNATIC!

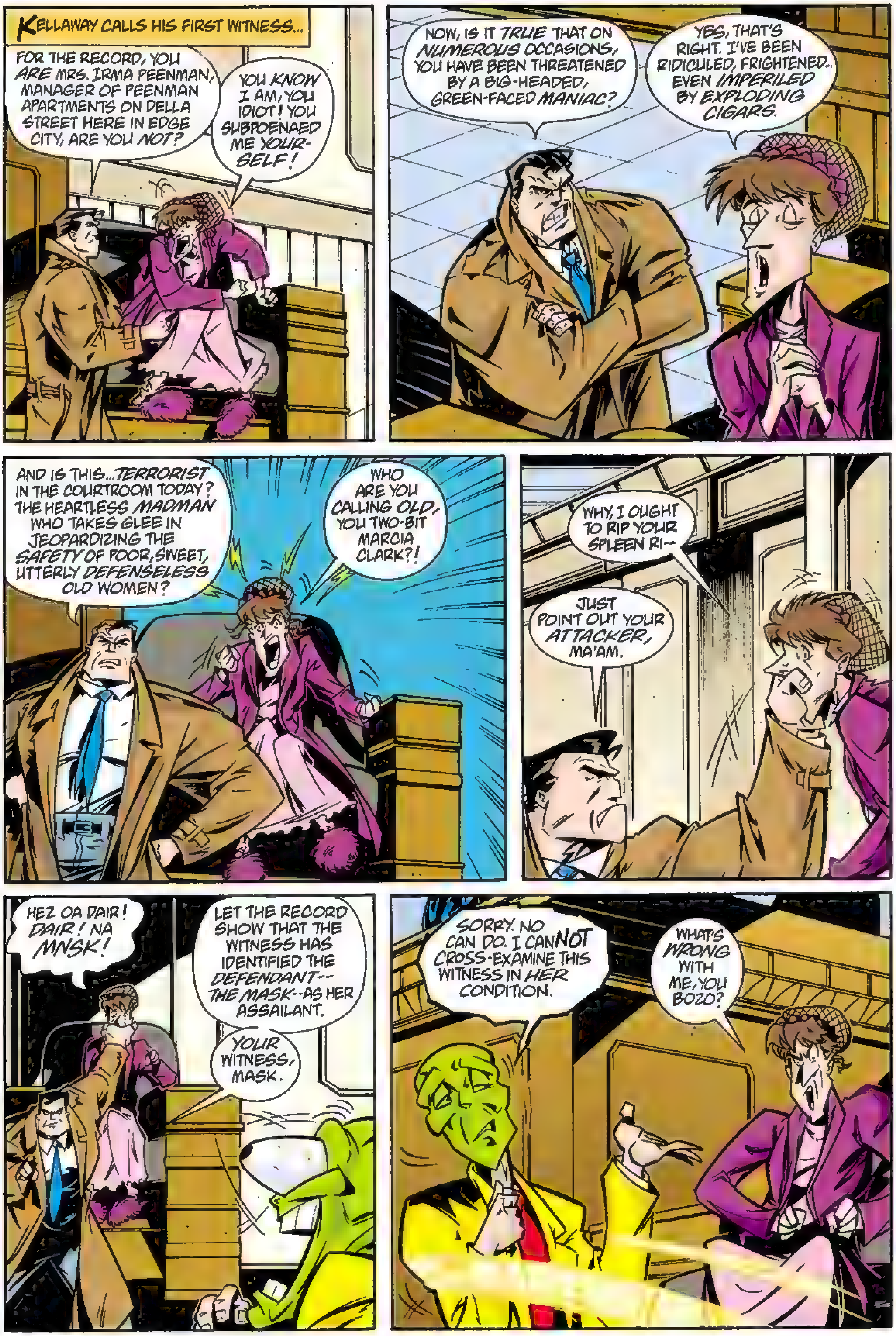

THE NEXT DAY...
THE LITIGATION STATION
CONTINUOUS COURTROOM COVERAGE
(And infomercials for Jurors' Tell-All Books)
YOU'RE WATCHING THE LITIGATION STATION, WHICH MEANS YOU'RE EITHER BORED OR HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO SOCIAL LIFE.
JERRY PRUDENCE HERE, LIVE FROM THE EDGE CITY COURTHOUSE, WHERE, LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER BEING ARRESTED--
--THE UNUSUAL SUPERHERO KNOWN AS THE MASK IS BEING BROUGHT TO TRIAL.
LITIGATION STATION
THE EDGE CITY JAILHOUSE ROCKED LAST NIGHT AS THE MASK UNLEASHED A WAVE OF COMEDIC CHAOS...
...WHICH INCLUDED WALLPAPERING CELLS WITH THE SUNDAY FUNNIES, DRESSING GUARDS IN PINK TUTUS, AND HEADLINING AN IMPROMPTU ROCK'N'ROLL REVUE.
LITIGATION STATION
FEARING FURTHER INCIDENTS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES DECIDED TO EXPEDITE THE LEGAL PROCESS IN THIS CASE, BRINGING THE MASK TO ARRAIGNMENT LATE LAST NIGHT--
YAWN
LITIGATION STATION
--AND TO TRIAL TODAY. STAY TUNED TO THE LITIGATION STATION AS THIS EXCITING SITUATION UNFOLDS...

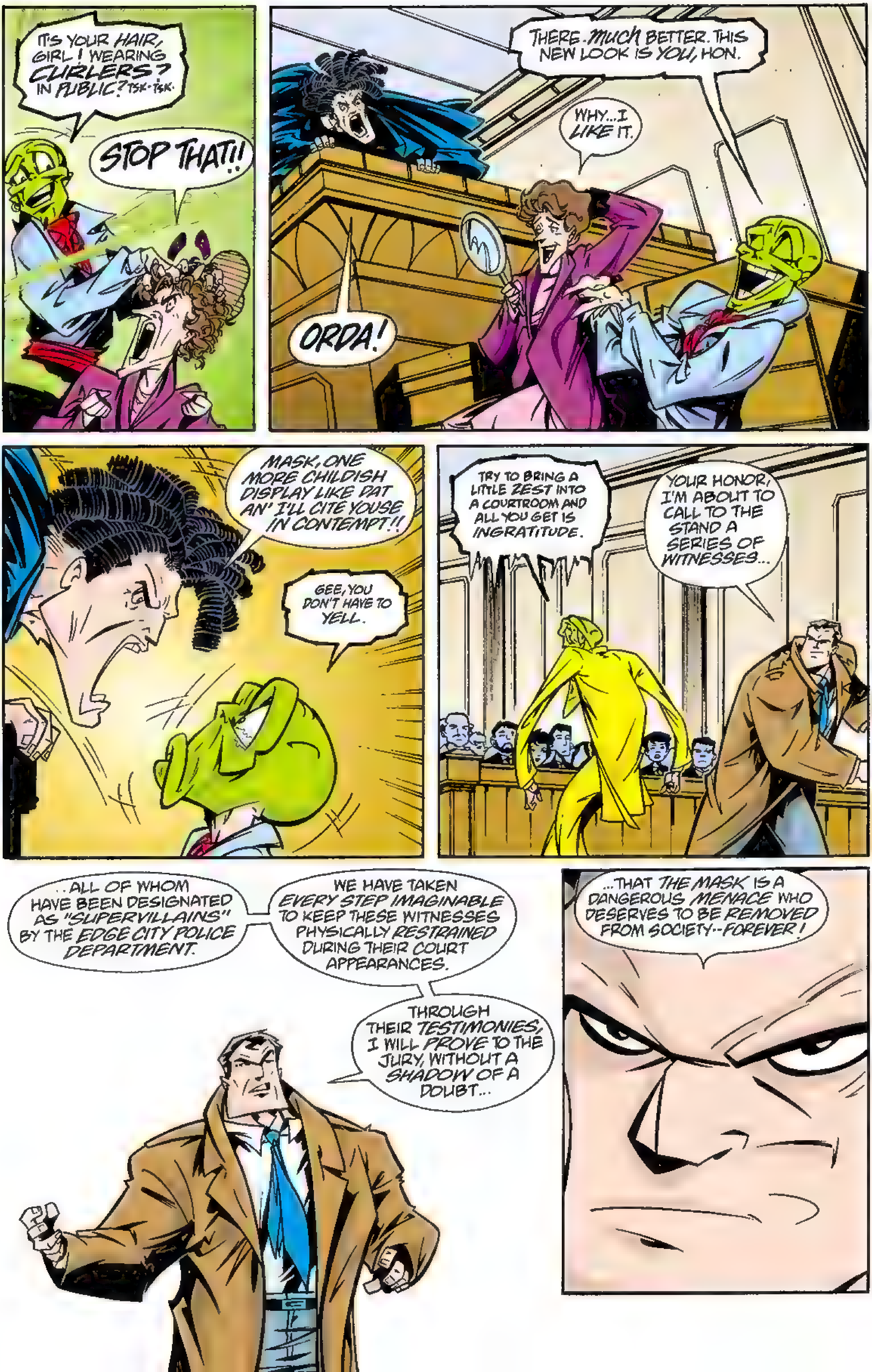

INSIDE THE COURTROOM...
ALL RISE!
PRESIDING OVER "THE PEOPLE OF EDGE CITY VERSUS THE MASK" IS THE HONORABLE--
--JUDGE DREADLOX!
HEY, YOU'RE BLOCKING MY LIGHT!
BE SEATED.
DIS COURT IS NOW IN SESSION.

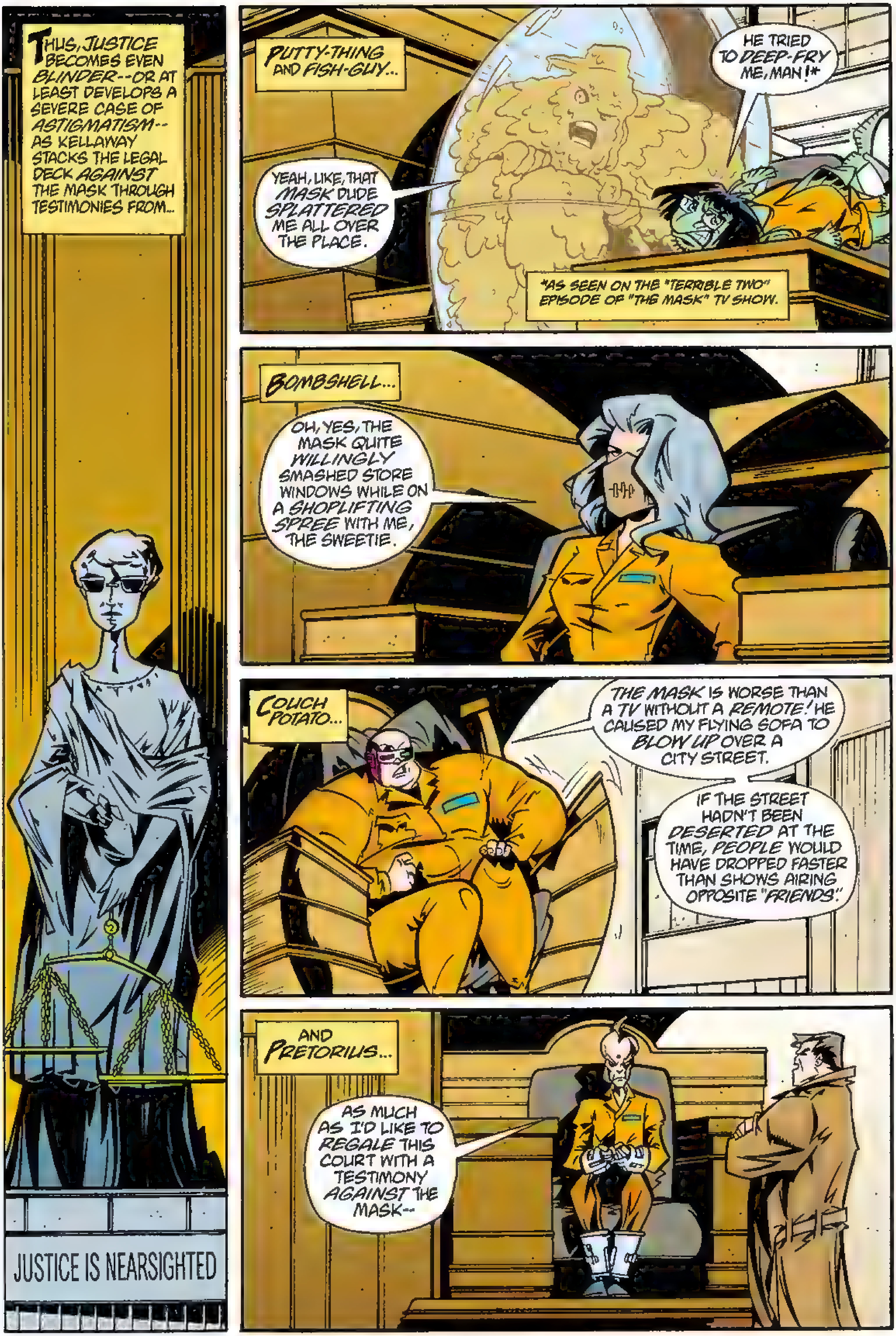

YOUR HONOR, DUE TO THE *PECULIAR* NATURE OF THIS TRIAL, *AND* THE FACT THAT WE'RE ALREADY OVER HALFWAY THROUGH OUR STORY AND DON'T HAVE ROOM TO INTRODUCE ANOTHER CHARACTER...
...THE *DISTRICT ATTORNEY* HAS APPOINTED POLICE LT. KELLAWAY AS A *SPECIAL PROSECUTOR* IN THIS CASE.
YOU FORGOT TO MENTION THAT I'VE TAPED EVERY EPISODE OF *"MATLOCK."*
AND, DESPITE *HUNDREDS* OF OFFERS FROM DEFENSE LAWYERS WITH MEDIA AND BESTSELLER ASPIRATIONS, *THE MASK* IS ACTING AS HIS *OWN* COUNSEL.
PSST...IS JUDGE-O WEARIN' ANYTHING UNDER HIS *ROBE?*
MASK, YOUSE CHARGED WIT' 35 COUNTS A' *RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT, FIFTEEN* COUNTS A' PULLIN' A POLICE OFFICER'S *UNDERWEAR* OVER HIS HEAD...
...AN' *ONE* COUNT A' PERFORMIN' A *BAD* ETHEL MERMAN IMPRESSION IN PUBLIC.
HOW DO YA *PLEAD?*
WELL, *FIRST* I DROP TO MY *KNEES* AND CLASP MY HANDS LIKE *THIS*...
...*THEN* I START BAWLIN' LIKE A BABY AND I SAY, "NO! DON'T! I BEG YOU! I'M *PLEADING* WITH YOU! *PLEEEEEASE!!"*

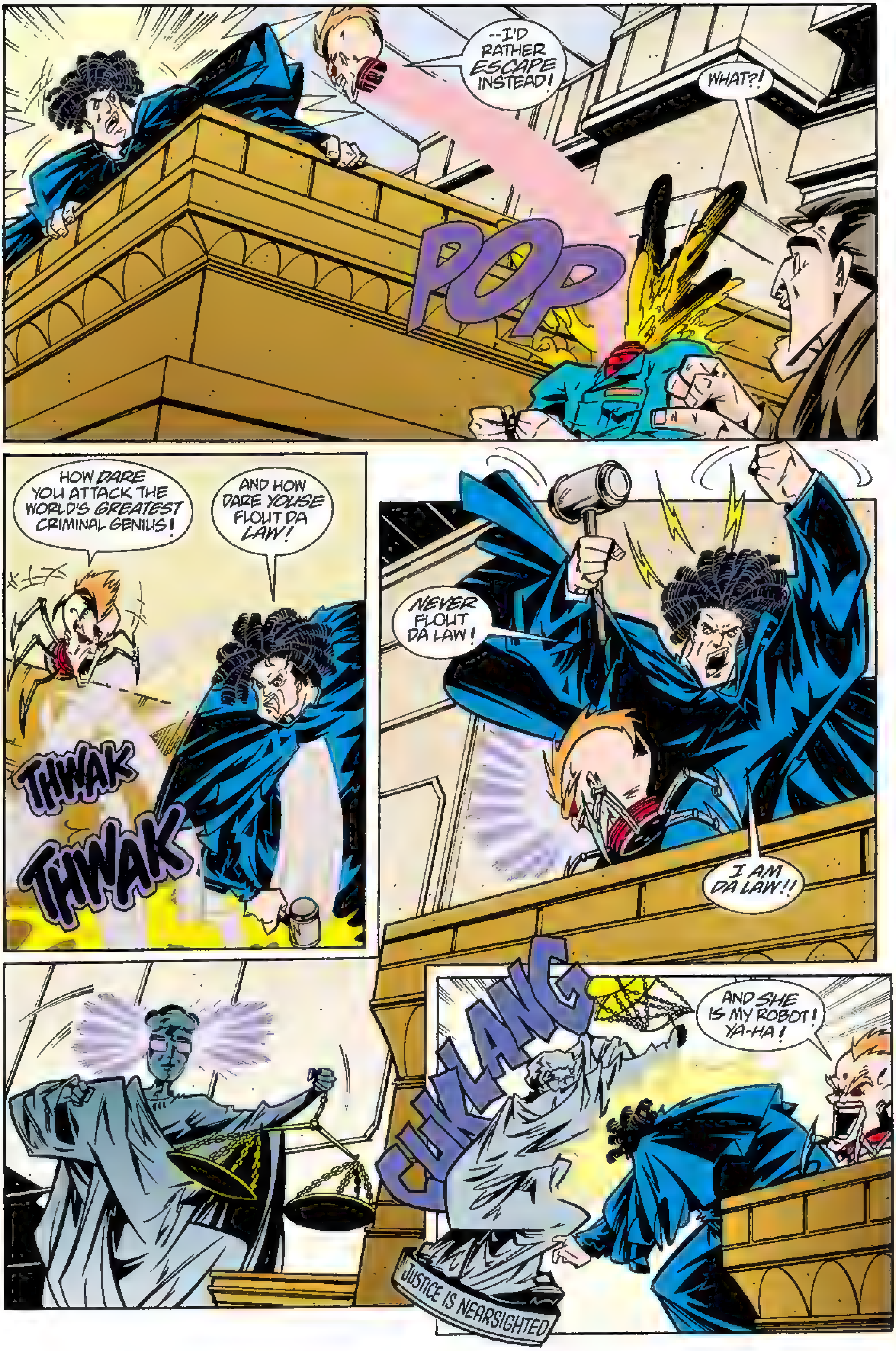

AND ABOUT THOSE CHARGES AGAINST ME--
--MY ETHEL MERMAN'S AS GOOD AS ANYBODY'S! LEMME SHOW YA...
There's no business like ♪ show ♪ business...
...there's ♪ no ♪ business I know!
EVERYTHING ♪ ABOUT IT IS AP-PEAL-ING!
SING IT, SISTER!
ORDA!!

ORDA IN DA COURT!
DIS COURT WILL COME TA ORDA!!
THWACK
BAILIFF, ESCORT DA MASK BACK TO HIS SEAT!
AND MASK, MAY I REMIND YA DAT YOUSE IN A COURT A' LAW, AND MUS' CONDUCT YOUSESELF ACCORDINGLY.
Oopsie! Sorry.
IF THAT PSYCHO KEEPS THIS UP, I'LL WIN THIS CASE FOR SURE, DOYLE.
AND BESIDES, I HAVE SEEN BETTER ETHEL MERMANS...
GEE, LIEUTENANT, I THOUGHT HE WAS PRETTY GOOD.
DOYLE!


KELLAWAY CALLS HIS FIRST WITNESS...
FOR THE RECORD, YOU ARE MRS. IRMA PEENMAN, MANAGER OF PEENMAN APARTMENTS ON DELLA STREET HERE IN EDGE CITY, ARE YOU NOT?
YOU KNOW I AM, YOU IDIOT! YOU SUBPOENAED ME YOURSELF!
NOW, IS IT TRUE THAT ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, YOU HAVE BEEN THREATENED BY A BIG-HEADED, GREEN-FACED MANIAC?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT. I'VE BEEN RIDICULED, FRIGHTENED... EVEN IMPERILED BY EXPLODING CIGARS.
AND IS THIS...TERRORIST IN THE COURTROOM TODAY? THE HEARTLESS MADMAN WHO TAKES GLEE IN JEOPARDIZING THE SAFETY OF POOR, SWEET, UTTERLY DEFENSELESS OLD WOMEN?
WHO ARE YOU CALLING OLD, YOU TWO-BIT MARCIA CLARK?!
WHY, I OUGHT TO RIP YOUR SPLEEN RI--
JUST POINT OUT YOUR ATTACKER, MA'AM.
HEZ OA DAIR! DAIR! NA MNSK!
LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT THE WITNESS HAS IDENTIFIED THE DEFENDANT--THE MASK--AS HER ASSAILANT.
YOUR WITNESS, MASK.
SORRY. NO CAN DO. I CANNOT CROSS-EXAMINE THIS WITNESS IN HER CONDITION.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME, YOU BOZO?

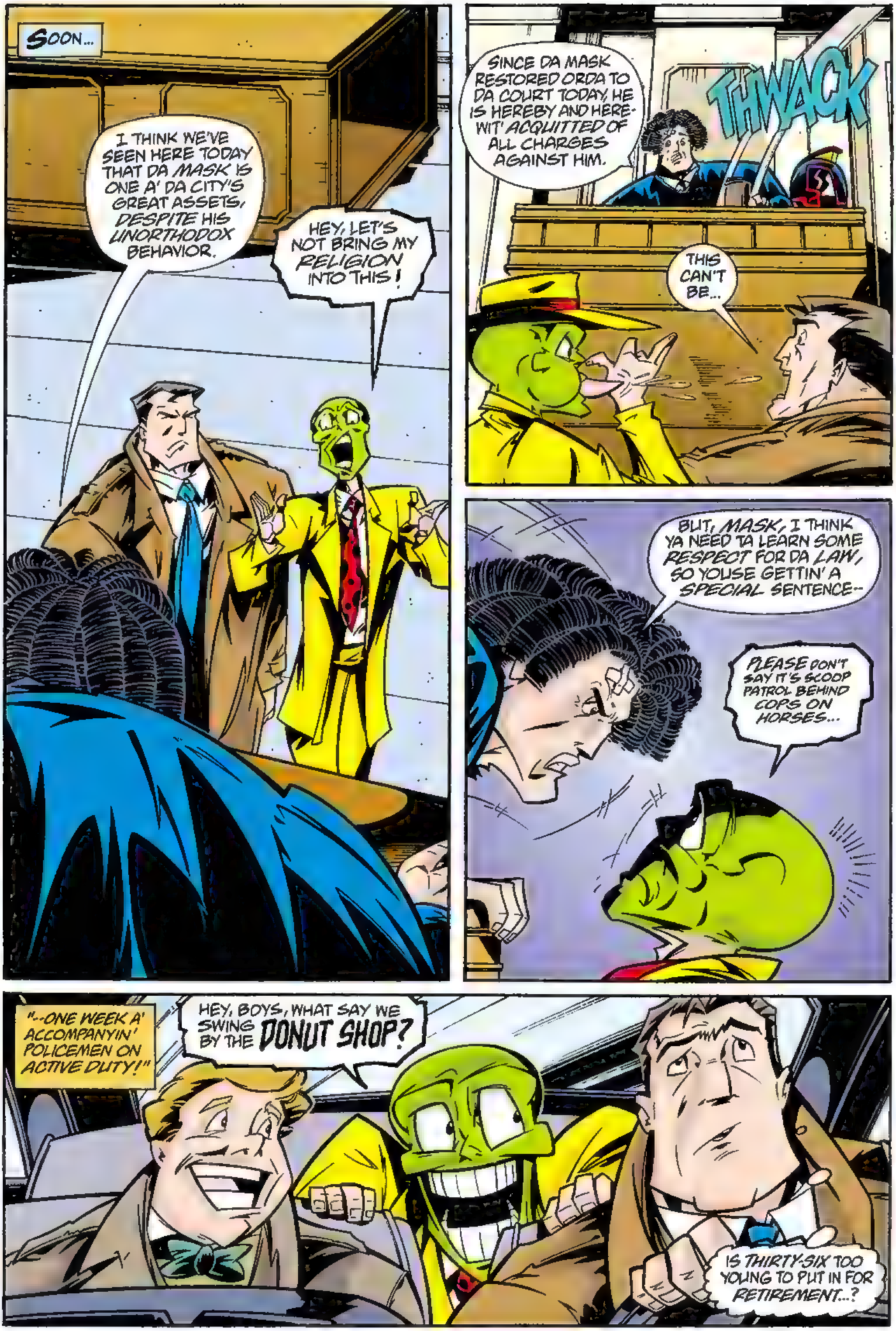

IT'S YOUR HAIR, GIRL! WEARING CURLERS? IN PUBLIC? TSK-TSK.
STOP THAT!!
THERE. MUCH BETTER. THIS NEW LOOK IS YOU, HON.
WHY... I LIKE IT.
ORDA!
MASK, ONE MORE CHILDISH DISPLAY LIKE DAT AN' I'LL CITE YOUSE IN CONTEMPT!!
GEE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL.
TRY TO BRING A LITTLE ZEST INTO A COURTROOM AND ALL YOU GET IS INGRATITUDE.
YOUR HONOR, I'M ABOUT TO CALL TO THE STAND A SERIES OF WITNESSES...
...ALL OF WHOM HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS "SUPERVILLAINS" BY THE EDGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.
WE HAVE TAKEN EVERY STEP IMAGINABLE TO KEEP THESE WITNESSES PHYSICALLY RESTRAINED DURING THEIR COURT APPEARANCES.
THROUGH THEIR TESTIMONIES, I WILL PROVE TO THE JURY, WITHOUT A SHADOW OF A DOUBT...
...THAT THE MASK IS A DANGEROUS MENACE WHO DESERVES TO BE REMOVED FROM SOCIETY--FOREVER!


THUS, JUSTICE BECOMES EVEN BLINDER--OR AT LEAST DEVELOPS A SEVERE CASE OF ASTIGMATISM--AS KELLAWAY STACKS THE LEGAL DECK AGAINST THE MASK THROUGH TESTIMONIES FROM...
JUSTICE IS NEARSIGHTED
PUTTY-THING AND FISH-GUY...
HE TRIED TO DEEP-FRY ME, MAN!*
YEAH, LIKE, THAT MASK DUDE SPLATTERED ME ALL OVER THE PLACE.
*AS SEEN ON THE "TERRIBLE TWO" EPISODE OF "THE MASK" TV SHOW.
BOMBSHELL...
OH, YES, THE MASK QUITE WILLINGLY SMASHED STORE WINDOWS WHILE ON A SHOPLIFTING SPREE WITH ME, THE SWEETIE.
COUCH POTATO...
THE MASK IS WORSE THAN A TV WITHOUT A REMOTE! HE CAUSED MY FLYING SOFA TO BLOW UP OVER A CITY STREET.
IF THE STREET HADN'T BEEN DESERTED AT THE TIME, PEOPLE WOULD HAVE DROPPED FASTER THAN SHOWS AIRING OPPOSITE "FRIENDS."
AND PRETORIUS...
AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO REGALE THIS COURT WITH A TESTIMONY AGAINST THE MASK--


--I'D RATHER *ESCAPE* INSTEAD!
WHAT?!
POP
HOW *DARE* YOU ATTACK THE WORLD'S *GREATEST* CRIMINAL GENIUS!
AND HOW DARE *YOUSE* FLOUT DA *LAW*!
THWAK
THWAK
NEVER FLOUT DA LAW!
I AM DA LAW!!
CHLANG
AND *SHE* IS MY ROBOT! YA-HA!
JUSTICE IS NEARSIGHTED

KLOP
JUSTICE'S VISION HAS INDEED IMPROVED.
JUSTICE IS NEARSIGHTED
OUT OF MY WAY!
SOMEBODY STOP HIM!
NEARSIGHTED
DISORDER IN THE COURT!
DISORDER IN THE COURTROOM, 'CAUSE--

..HERE COMES DA JUDGE!!
NO...
HOO-HOO!!
OWWCH!
FWACK!
BACK TO *PRISON* WITH YOU, HEADCASE!
OONF!


SOON...
I THINK WE'VE SEEN HERE TODAY THAT DA *MASK* IS ONE A' DA CITY'S GREAT ASSETS, *DESPITE* HIS *UNORTHODOX* BEHAVIOR.
HEY, LET'S NOT BRING MY *RELIGION* INTO THIS!
SINCE DA MASK RESTORED ORDA TO DA COURT TODAY, HE IS HEREBY AND HEREWIT' *ACQUITTED* OF ALL CHARGES AGAINST HIM.
THWACK
THIS CAN'T BE...
BUT, *MASK*, I THINK YA NEED TA LEARN SOME *RESPECT* FOR DA *LAW*, SO YOUSE GETTIN' A *SPECIAL* SENTENCE--
PLEASE DON'T SAY IT'S SCOOP PATROL BEHIND COPS ON HORSES...
"--ONE WEEK A' ACCOMPANYIN' POLICEMEN ON ACTIVE DUTY!"
HEY, BOYS, WHAT SAY WE SWING BY THE DONUT SHOP?
IS *THIRTY-SIX* TOO YOUNG TO PUT IN FOR *RETIREMENT*...?

COURT IS ADJOURNED.

VIRTUAL SURREALITY
POUND

script
MICHAEL EURY

art
IVAN REIS and EDDE WAGNER

colors
DAVE NESTELLE

lettering
CLEM ROBINS

title illustration
JOHN POUND

FEATURING:

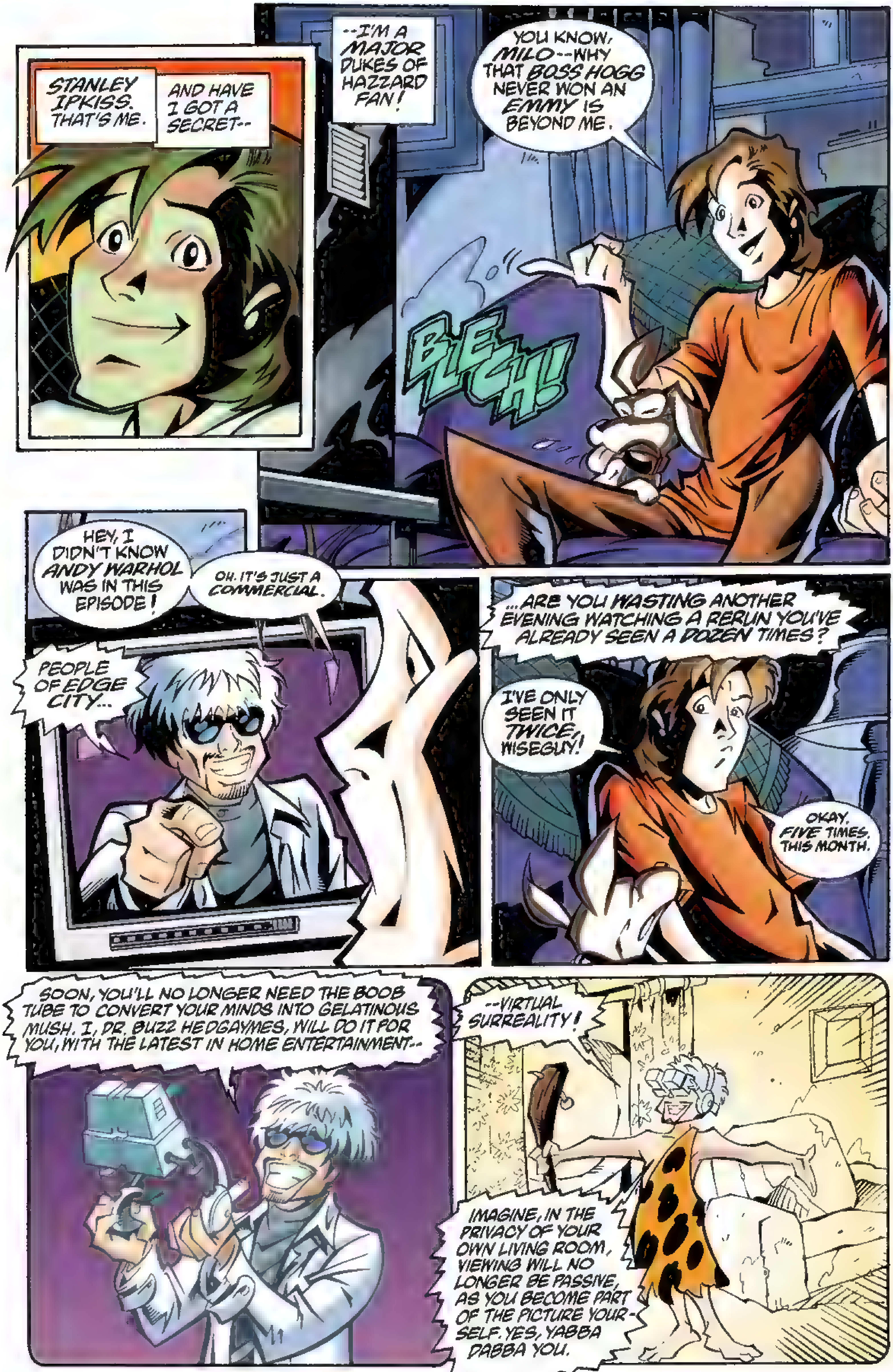
"THE AGE OF BARBARIANS"
by **SERGIO ARAGONÉS**
dialogue **MARK EVANIER**
colors **TOM LUTH**
lettering **STAN SAKAI**

"MASKMAN VS. LAVENDER LASS"
by **AARON LOPRESTI**
colors **TOM LUTH**
lettering **KEN BRUZENAK**

"TUBER FRENZY"
by **DAVE COOPER**

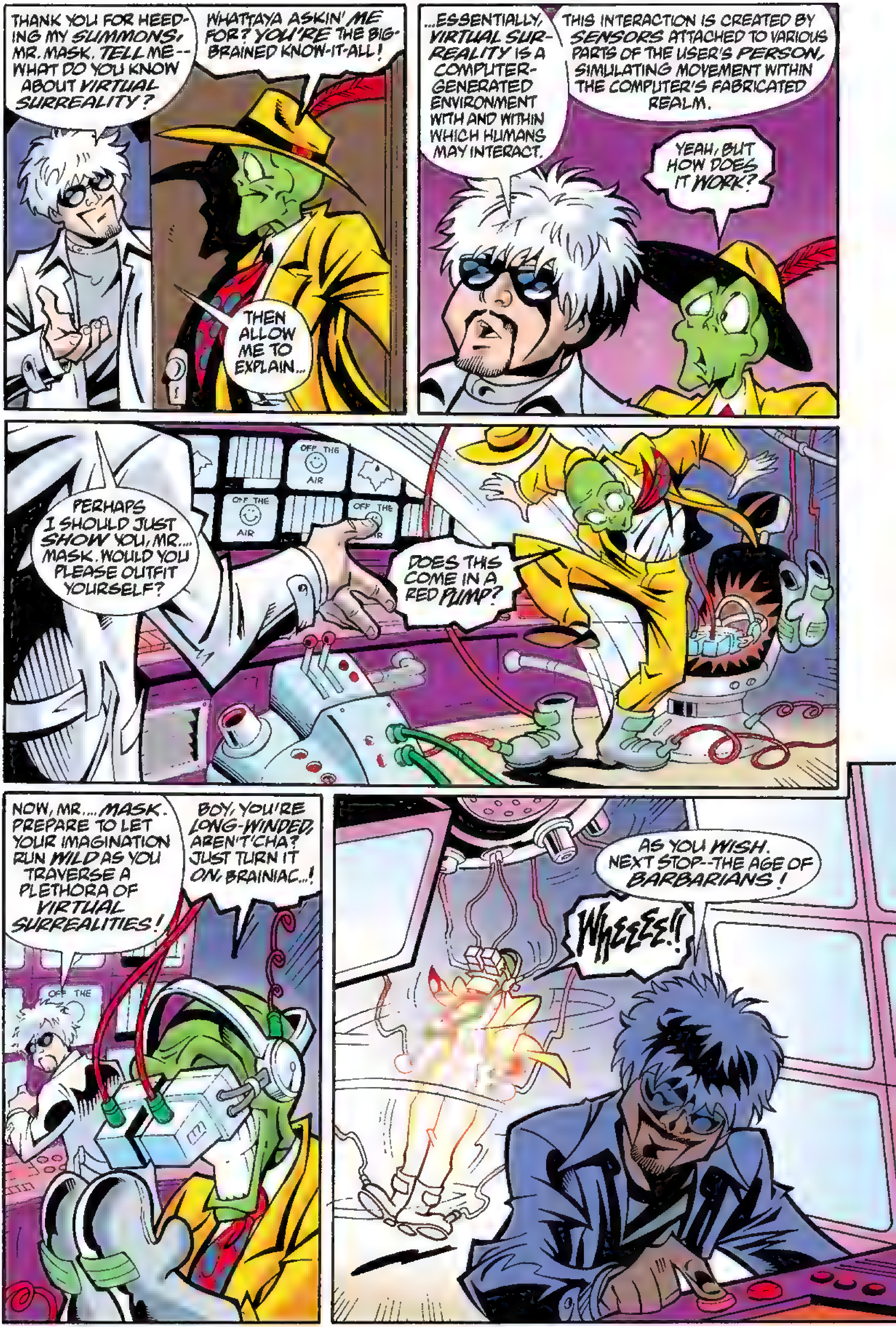
"MACY'S 3099"
by **DAVE TAYLOR**
colors **PAMELA RAMBO**

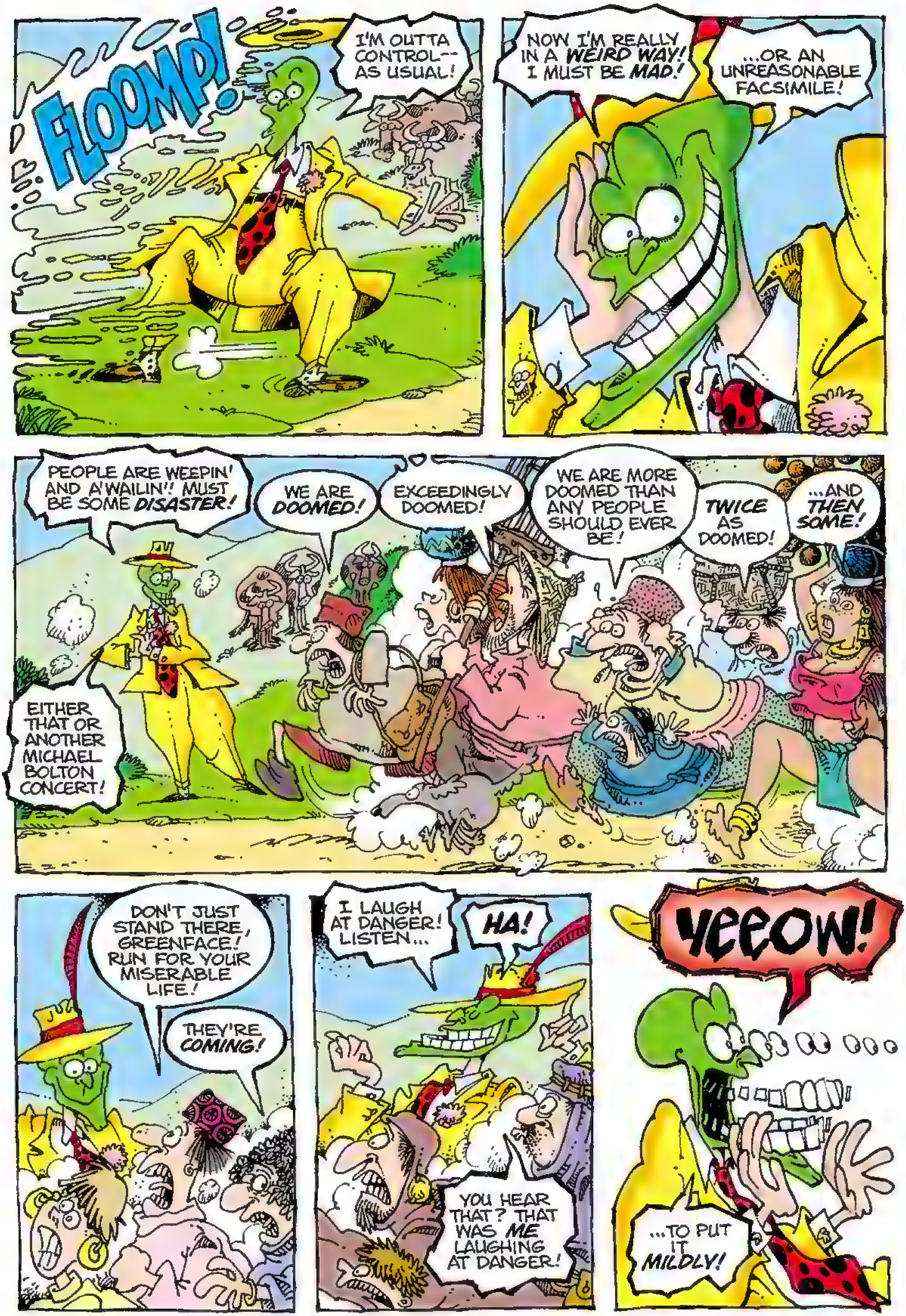
"GUG SOTH-YOG SUGOTH"
by **MIKE MIGNOLA**
colors **JAMES SINCLAIR**
lettering **PAT BROSSEAU**

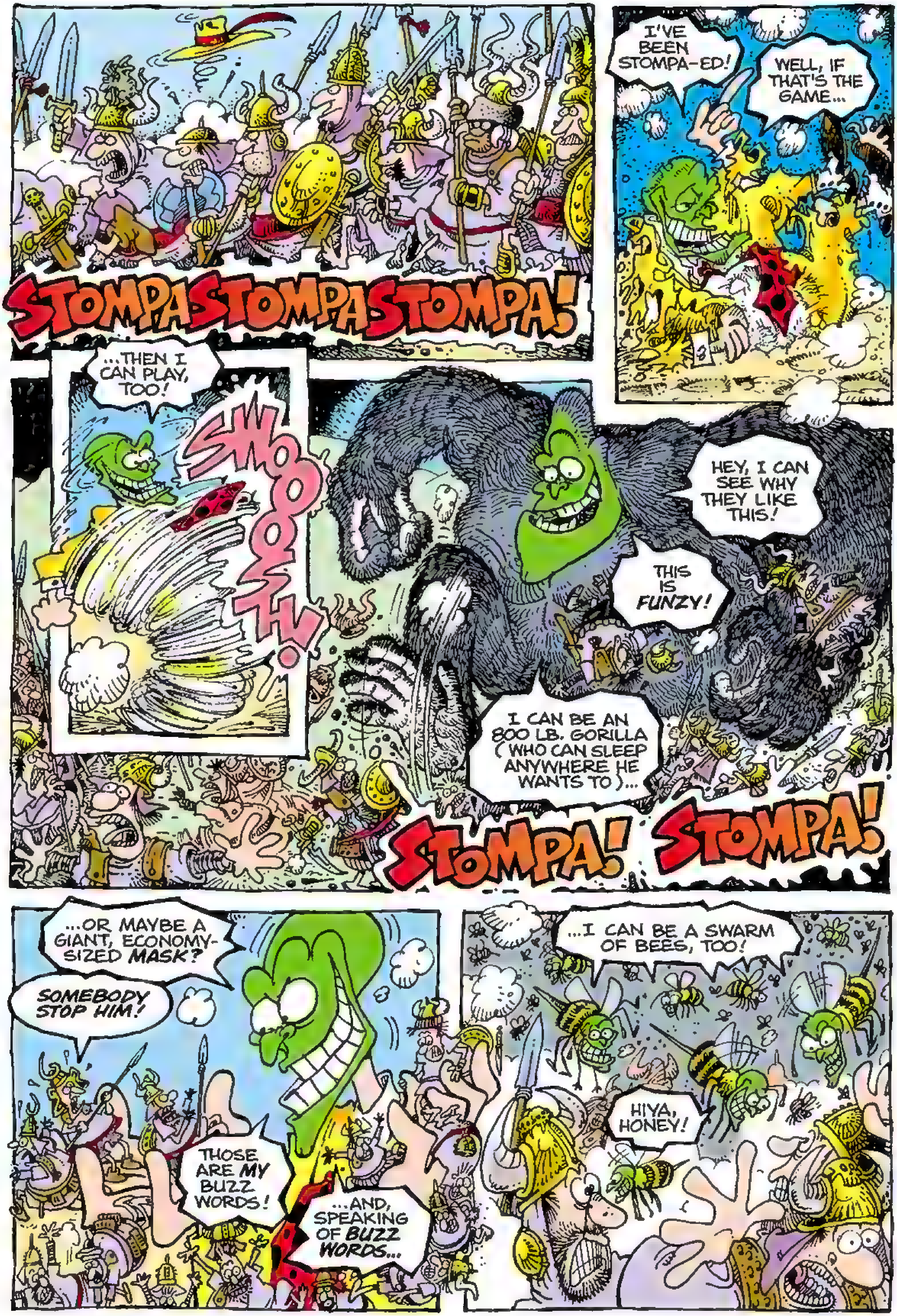

STANLEY IPKISS. THAT'S ME.
AND HAVE I GOT A SECRET--
--I'M A MAJOR DUKES OF HAZZARD FAN!
YOU KNOW, MILO--WHY THAT BOSS HOGG NEVER WON AN EMMY IS BEYOND ME.
BLECH!!
HEY, I DIDN'T KNOW ANDY WARHOL WAS IN THIS EPISODE!
OH. IT'S JUST A COMMERCIAL.
PEOPLE OF EDGE CITY...
...ARE YOU WASTING ANOTHER EVENING WATCHING A RERUN YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN A DOZEN TIMES?
I'VE ONLY SEEN IT TWICE, WISEGUY!
OKAY, FIVE TIMES. THIS MONTH.
SOON, YOU'LL NO LONGER NEED THE BOOB TUBE TO CONVERT YOUR MINDS INTO GELATINOUS MUSH. I, DR. BUZZ HEDGAYMES, WILL DO IT FOR YOU, WITH THE LATEST IN HOME ENTERTAINMENT--
--VIRTUAL SURREALITY!
IMAGINE, IN THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN LIVING ROOM, VIEWING WILL NO LONGER BE PASSIVE, AS YOU BECOME PART OF THE PICTURE YOURSELF. YES, YABBA DABBA YOU.

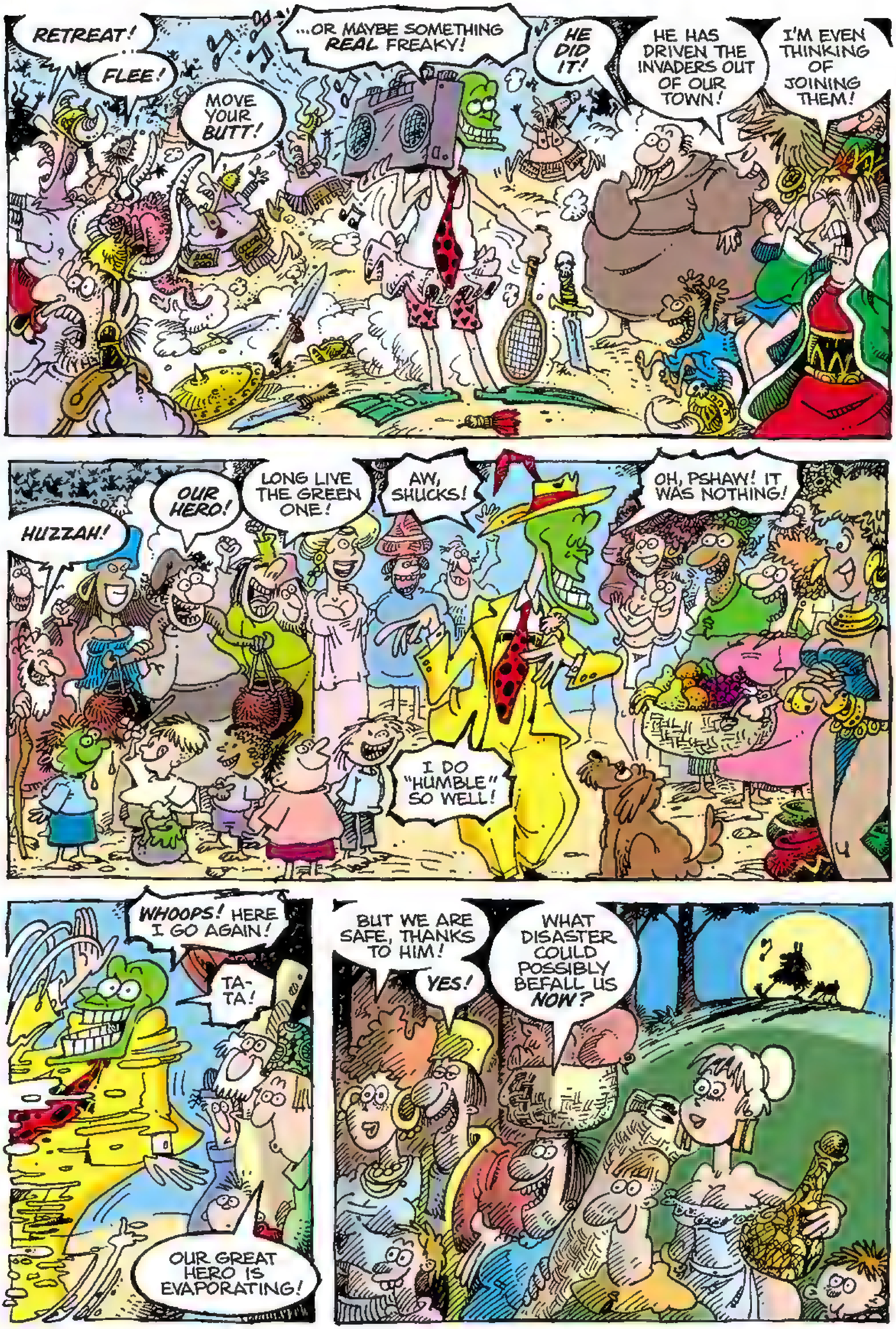
THIS EXHILARATING NEW TECHNOLOGY WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE FOR RETAIL SALE, ONCE I PROCURE THE SERVICES OF HUNDREDS OF UNDERPAID THIRD-WORLD WORKERS TO MASS-PRODUCE IT.
BUT FIRST, I'D LIKE TO PUT MY VIRTUAL SURREALITY THROUGH THE ULTIMATE TEST, EXPLORING ITS FULL POTENTIAL WITH A SUBJECT WHO BOASTS THE MOST VIVID IMAGINATION IN ALL OF EDGE CITY--
--THE MASK!
YAP YAP
MR.... MASK, IF YOU ARE WATCHING, PLEASE MEET ME THIS EVENING AT THE HEDGAYMES ELECTRONICS RESEARCH LABS, AND HELP TOMORROW'S SEDENTARY PASTIME BECOME REALITY TODAY.
SOUNDS LIKE AN OFFER I CAN'T REFUSE, MILO.
BUT IT'S NOT STANLEY THIS HEDGAYMES GUY WANTS--IT'S THE MASK. NO PROBLEM...
...BECAUSE I'VE GOT ANOTHER SECRET.

WHAT I DO NOW, I DO FOR SCIENCE!
AND THE CHANCE TO RIDE IN THE DUKES OF HAZZARD'S VIRTUAL GENERAL LEE. WOO-HOO!
WITHIN MOMENTS...
AH...THAT MUST BE MR. ... MASK.
DING-DONG
HIYA, DOC! READY TO OPERATE?
FUNNY BONE
ADAM'S APPLE
WISH BONE
"L" BONE
BROKEN HEART
BREAD BASKET
BUTTERFLIES IN STOMACH
CHARLIE HORSE
WRITER'S CRAMP
SPARE RIBS
WATER ON THE KNEE
ANKLE BONE CONNECTED TO THE KNEE BONE
WRENCHED ANKLE
ATHLETES FOOT


THANK YOU FOR HEEDING MY SUMMONS, MR. MASK. TELL ME -- WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT VIRTUAL SURREALITY?
WHATTAYA ASKIN' ME FOR? YOU'RE THE BIG-BRAINED KNOW-IT-ALL!
THEN ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN...
...ESSENTIALLY, VIRTUAL SURREALITY IS A COMPUTER-GENERATED ENVIRONMENT WITH AND WITHIN WHICH HUMANS MAY INTERACT.
THIS INTERACTION IS CREATED BY SENSORS ATTACHED TO VARIOUS PARTS OF THE USER'S PERSON, SIMULATING MOVEMENT WITHIN THE COMPUTER'S FABRICATED REALM.
YEAH, BUT HOW DOES IT WORK?
OFF THE AIR
OFF THE AIR
OFF THE AIR
PERHAPS I SHOULD JUST SHOW YOU, MR.... MASK. WOULD YOU PLEASE OUTFIT YOURSELF?
DOES THIS COME IN A RED PUMP?
NOW, MR.... MASK. PREPARE TO LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD AS YOU TRAVERSE A PLETHORA OF VIRTUAL SURREALITIES!
BOY, YOU'RE LONG-WINDED, AREN'T'CHA? JUST TURN IT ON, BRAINIAC...!
OFF THE
AS YOU WISH. NEXT STOP--THE AGE OF BARBARIANS!
WHEEEE!!

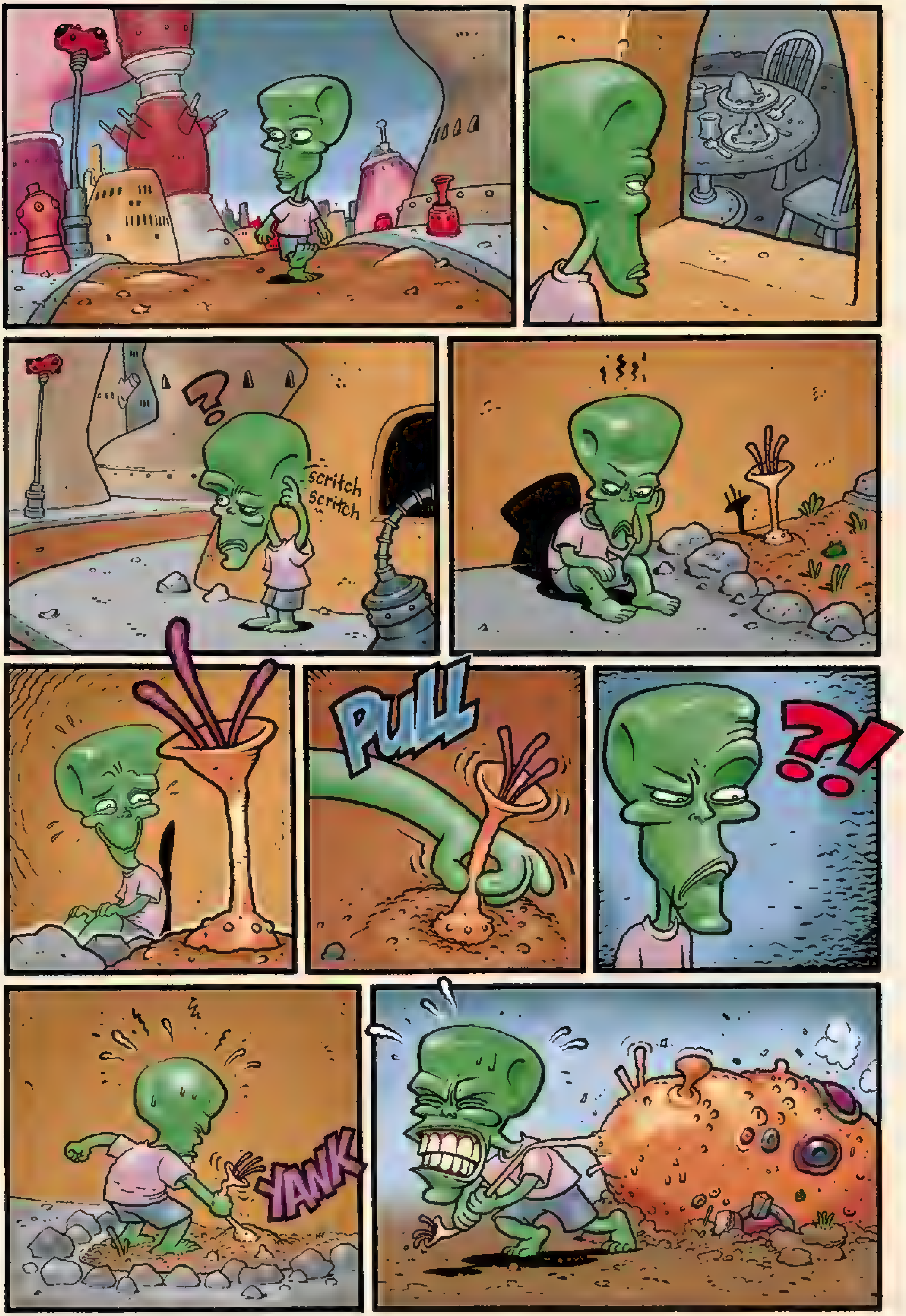

FLOOMP!
I'M OUTTA CONTROL-- AS USUAL!
NOW I'M REALLY IN A *WEIRD WAY!* I MUST BE *MAD!*
...OR AN UNREASONABLE FACSIMILE!
PEOPLE ARE WEEPIN' AND A'WAILIN'! MUST BE SOME *DISASTER!*
EITHER THAT OR ANOTHER MICHAEL BOLTON CONCERT!
WE ARE *DOOMED!*
EXCEEDINGLY DOOMED!
WE ARE MORE DOOMED THAN ANY PEOPLE SHOULD EVER BE!
TWICE AS DOOMED!
...AND *THEN SOME!*
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, GREENFACE! RUN FOR YOUR MISERABLE LIFE!
THEY'RE *COMING!*
I LAUGH AT DANGER! LISTEN...
HA!
YOU HEAR THAT? THAT WAS *ME* LAUGHING AT DANGER!
YEEOW!
...TO PUT IT *MILDLY!*

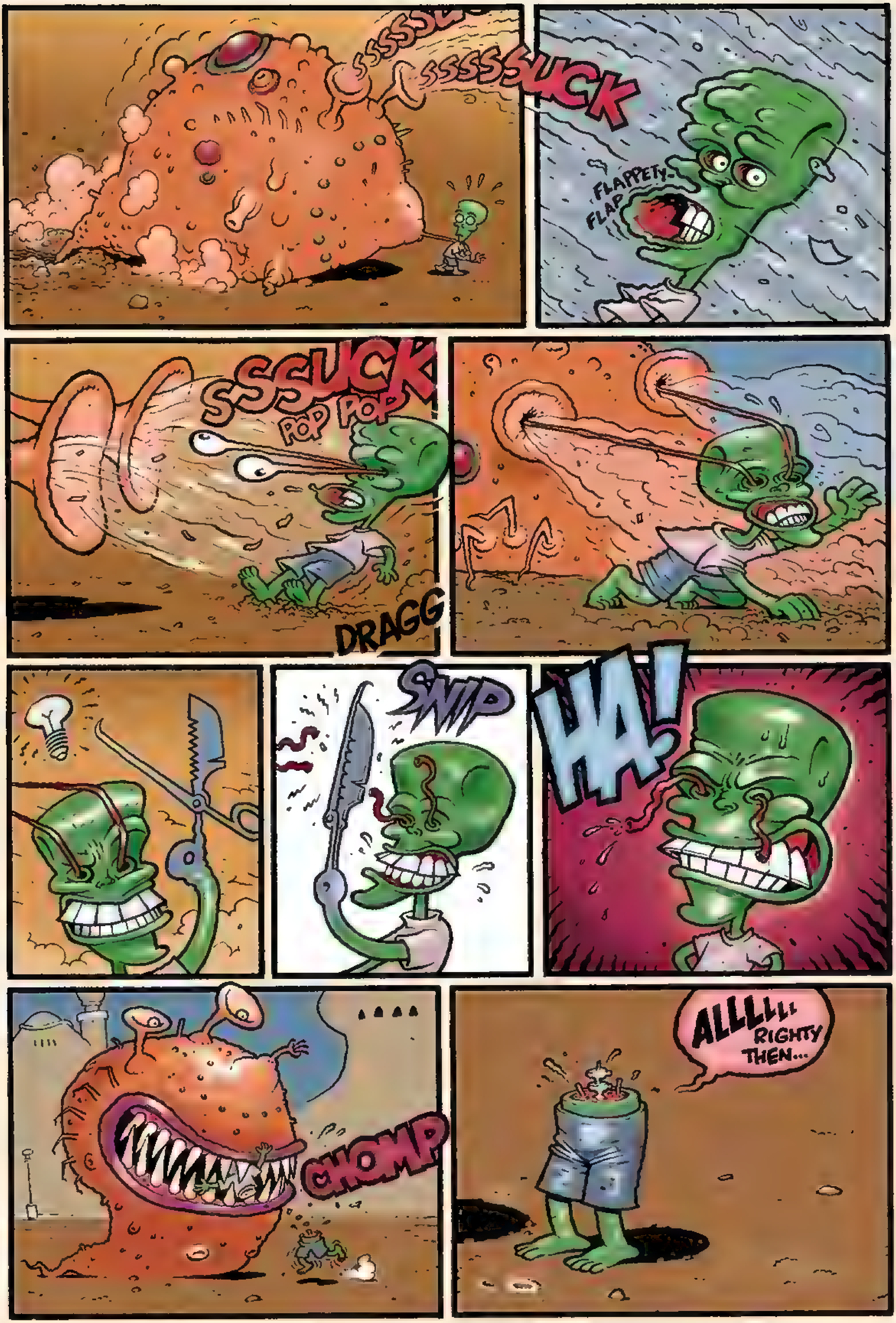

STOMPASTOMPASTOMPA!
I'VE BEEN STOMPA-ED!
WELL, IF THAT'S THE GAME...
...THEN I CAN PLAY, TOO!
SWOOOOSH!
HEY, I CAN SEE WHY THEY LIKE THIS!
THIS IS *FUNZY!*
I CAN BE AN 800 LB. GORILLA (WHO CAN SLEEP ANYWHERE HE WANTS TO)...
STOMPA! STOMPA!
...OR MAYBE A GIANT, ECONOMY-SIZED *MASK?*
SOMEBODY STOP HIM!
THOSE ARE *MY* BUZZ WORDS!
...AND, SPEAKING OF *BUZZ WORDS...*
...I CAN BE A SWARM OF BEES, TOO!
HIYA, HONEY!

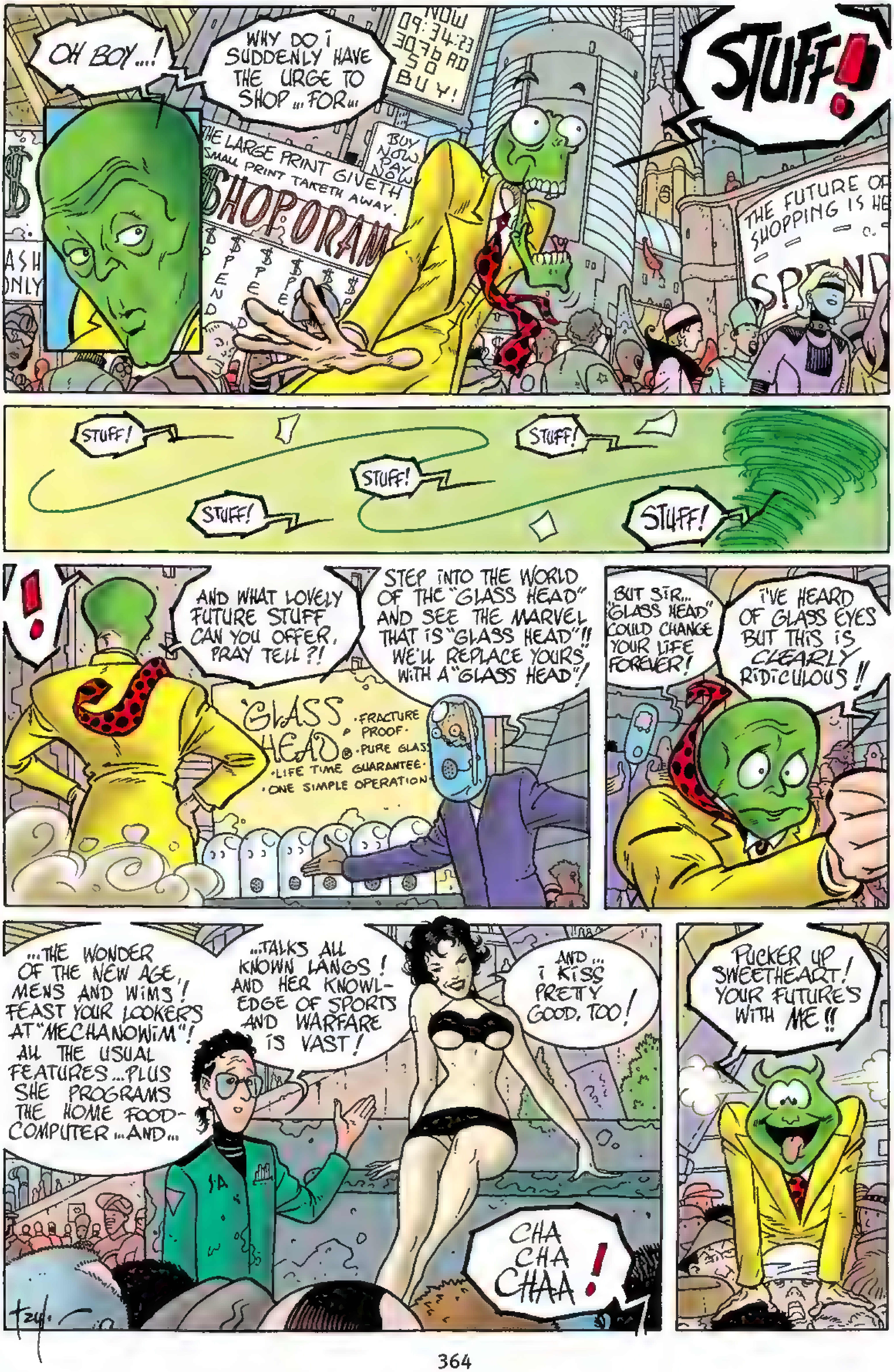

RETREAT!
FLEE!
MOVE YOUR BUTT!
...OR MAYBE SOMETHING REAL FREAKY!
HE DID IT!
HE HAS DRIVEN THE INVADERS OUT OF OUR TOWN!
I'M EVEN THINKING OF JOINING THEM!
HUZZAH!
OUR HERO!
LONG LIVE THE GREEN ONE!
AW, SHUCKS!
OH, PSHAW! IT WAS NOTHING!
I DO "HUMBLE" SO WELL!
WHOOPS! HERE I GO AGAIN!
TA-TA!
OUR GREAT HERO IS EVAPORATING!
BUT WE ARE SAFE, THANKS TO HIM!
YES!
WHAT DISASTER COULD POSSIBLY BEFALL US NOW?

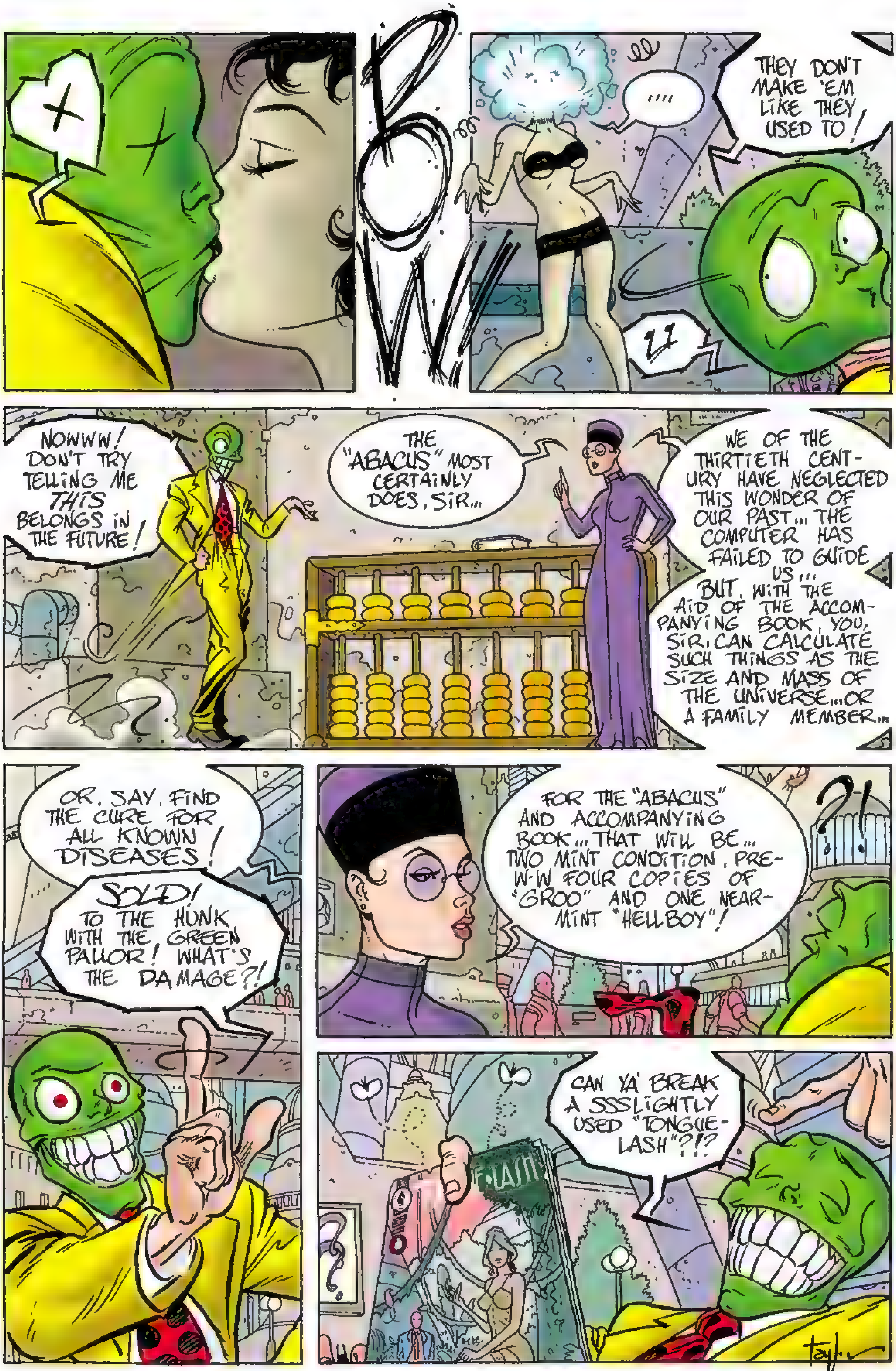
GAH! SUPERHEROES!
I'M AN OBSOLETE ICON OF AMERICAN SUBCULTURE.
OF COURSE, THE CHICKS WILL DIG ME.
KBOOM!
DOHF!
GET UP, MASK! YOU MAY HAVE DEFEATED THE JUSTICE FRIENDS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, BUT NOW YOU FACE LAVENDER LASS AND MY AWESOME POWER PURPLE.
MMMMMM, CURVACEOUS EXCELLANTOUS!
THAT'S LATIN, YA'KNOW.
LAKE ST.

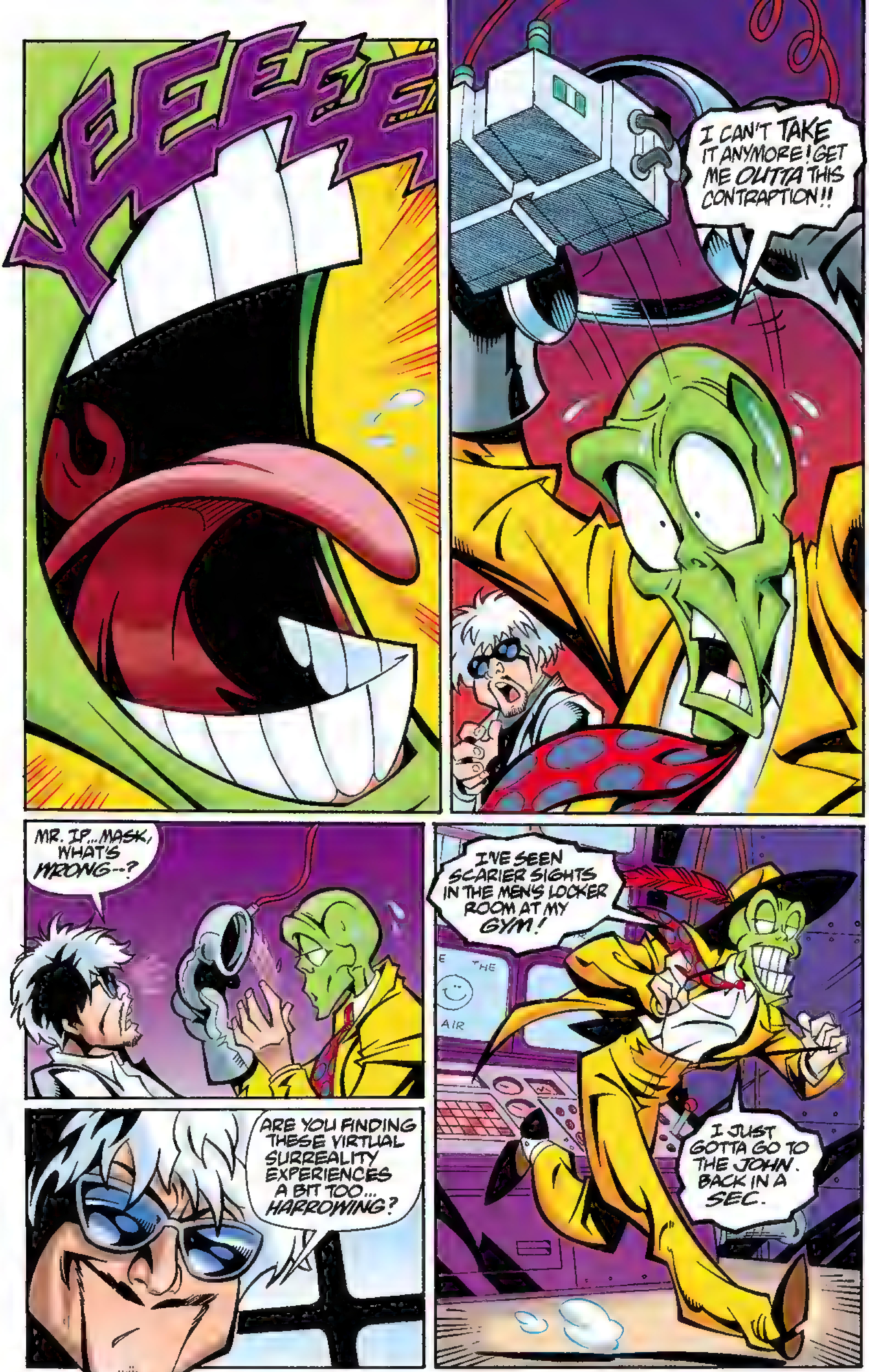
TASTE MY VIOLET VENGEANCE, SLAYER OF DECENCY.
THAT HURT...
...JUST A LITTLE BIT.
I DON'T USUALLY HIT GIRLS, UNLESS OF COURSE, THERE'S CASH INVOLVED.
BUT FOR YOU, HONEY, I'M PREPARED TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION.
IT'S SLOBBERIN' TIME!
BKOOOM!
OUCH!
NOT IN THE FACE! NOT IN THE FACE!

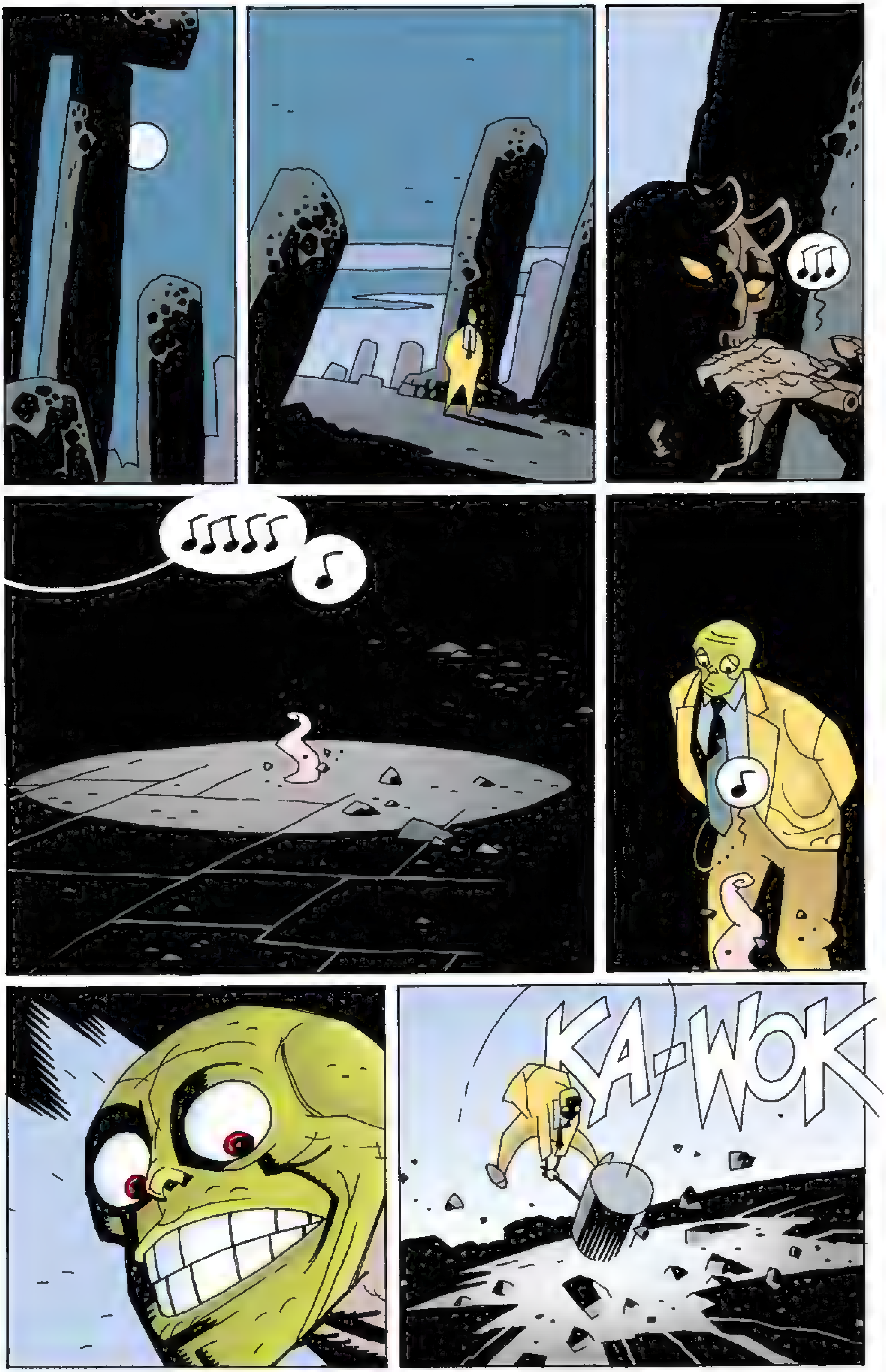

?
scritch
scritch
PULL
?!
YANK

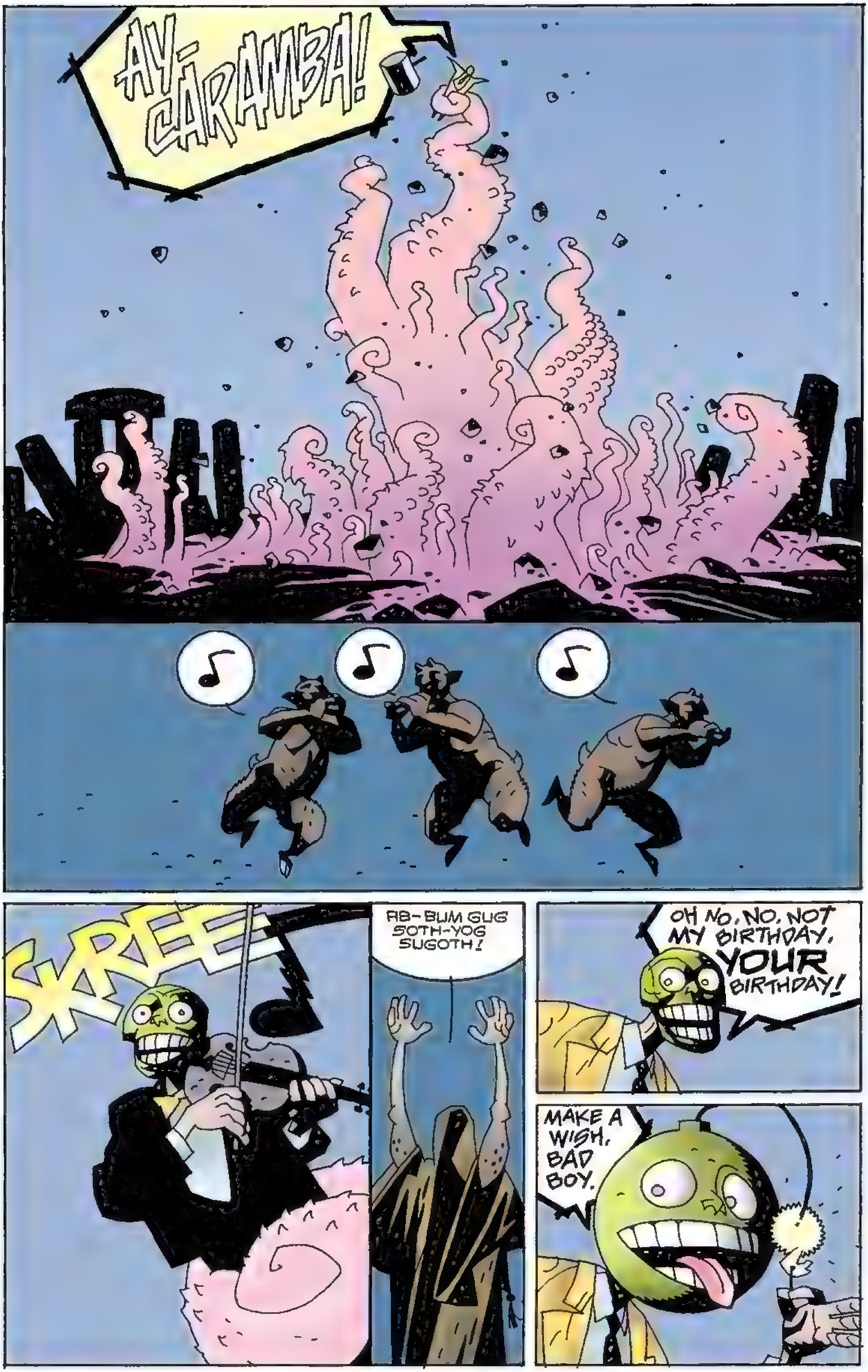

SSSSSU
SSSSSUCK
FLAPPETY-FLAP
SSSUCK
POP POP
DRAGG
SNIP
HA!
CHOMP
ALLLLLL RIGHTY THEN...

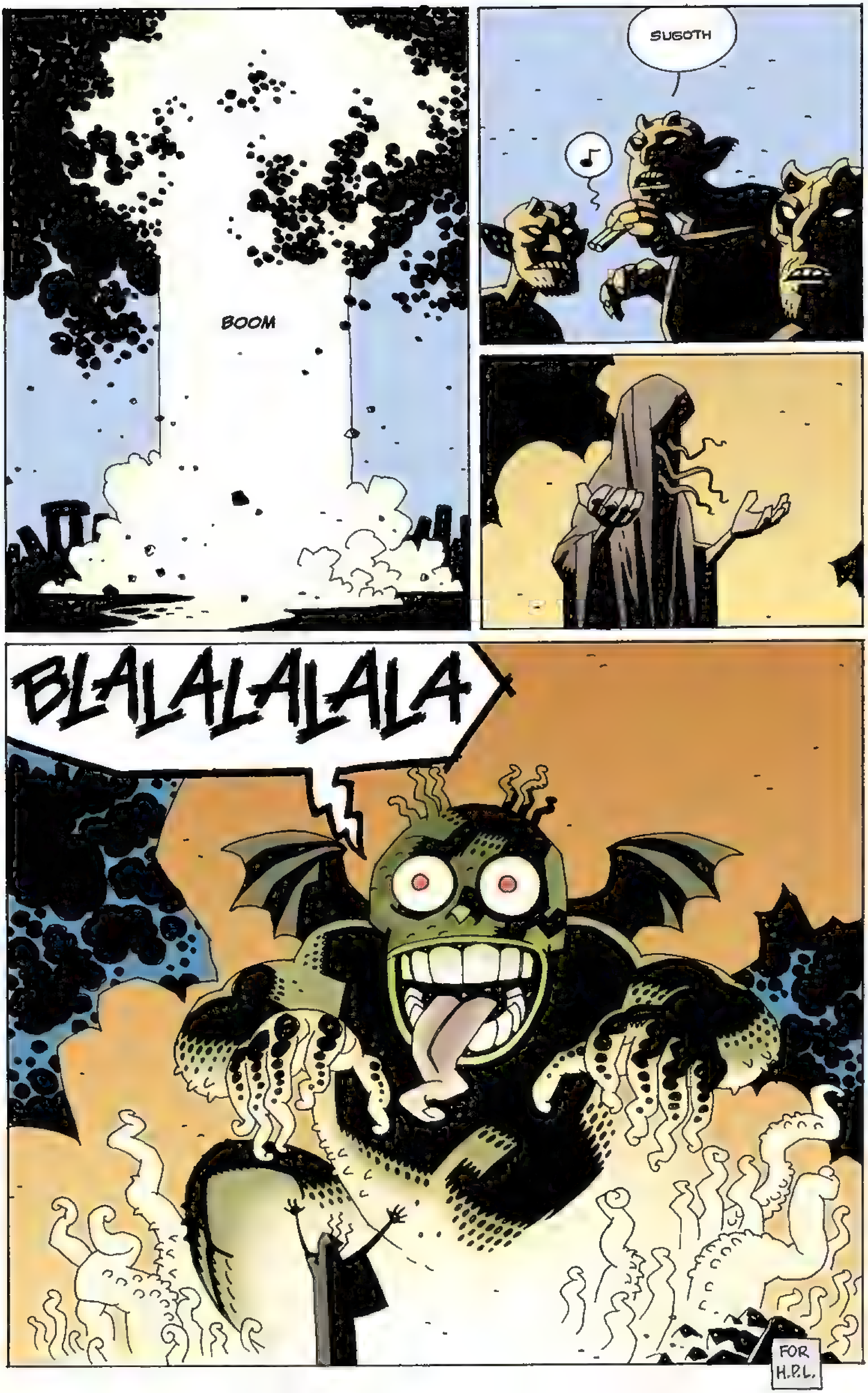

OH BOY...!
WHY DO I SUDDENLY HAVE THE URGE TO SHOP... FOR...
NOW 09:34:23 3076 AD S O BUY!
BUY NOW PAY NOW
THE LARGE PRINT GIVETH SMALL PRINT TAKETH AWAY
SHOPORAM
SPEND SPEND SPEND
CASH ONLY
STUFF!
THE FUTURE OF SHOPPING IS HE
SPEND
STUFF!
STUFF!
STUFF!
STUFF!
STUFF!
!
AND WHAT LOVELY FUTURE STUFF CAN YOU OFFER, PRAY TELL?!
STEP INTO THE WORLD OF THE "GLASS HEAD" AND SEE THE MARVEL THAT IS "GLASS HEAD"!! WE'LL REPLACE YOURS WITH A "GLASS HEAD"!
"GLASS HEAD"® ·FRACTURE PROOF· ·PURE GLASS ·LIFE TIME GUARANTEE· ·ONE SIMPLE OPERATION·
BUT SIR... "GLASS HEAD" COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER!
I'VE HEARD OF GLASS EYES BUT THIS IS CLEARLY RIDICULOUS!!
...THE WONDER OF THE NEW AGE, MENS AND WIMS! FEAST YOUR LOOKERS AT "MECHANOWIM"! ALL THE USUAL FEATURES... PLUS SHE PROGRAMS THE HOME FOOD-COMPUTER... AND...
...TALKS ALL KNOWN LANGS! AND HER KNOWLEDGE OF SPORTS AND WARFARE IS VAST!
AND... I KISS PRETTY GOOD, TOO!
CHA CHA CHAA!
PUCKER UP SWEETHEART! YOUR FUTURE'S WITH ME!!

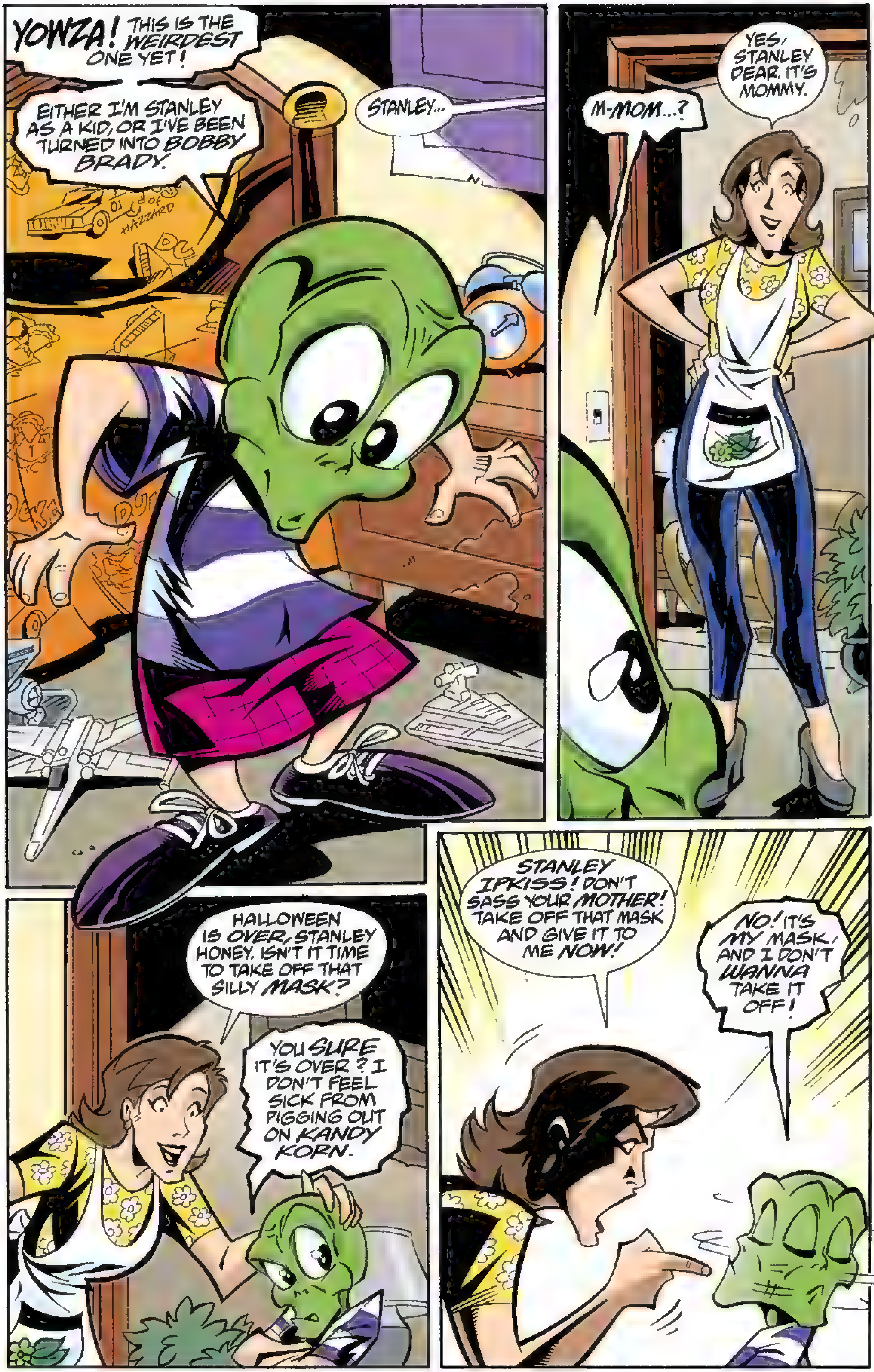

POW
....
THEY DON'T MAKE 'EM LIKE THEY USED TO!
ZZ
NOWWW! DON'T TRY TELLING ME *THIS* BELONGS IN THE FUTURE!
THE "ABACUS" MOST CERTAINLY DOES, SIR...
WE OF THE THIRTIETH CENTURY HAVE NEGLECTED THIS WONDER OF OUR PAST... THE COMPUTER HAS FAILED TO GUIDE US...
BUT, WITH THE AID OF THE ACCOMPANYING BOOK, YOU, SIR, CAN CALCULATE SUCH THINGS AS THE SIZE AND MASS OF THE UNIVERSE...OR A FAMILY MEMBER...
OR, SAY, FIND THE CURE FOR ALL KNOWN DISEASES!
SOLD! TO THE HUNK WITH THE GREEN PALLOR! WHAT'S THE DAMAGE?!
FOR THE "ABACUS" AND ACCOMPANYING BOOK... THAT WILL BE... TWO MINT CONDITION, PRE-W.W. FOUR COPIES OF "GROO" AND ONE NEAR-MINT "HELLBOY"!
?!
CAN YA' BREAK A SSSLIGHTLY USED "TONGUE-LASH"?!?
LASH
taylor

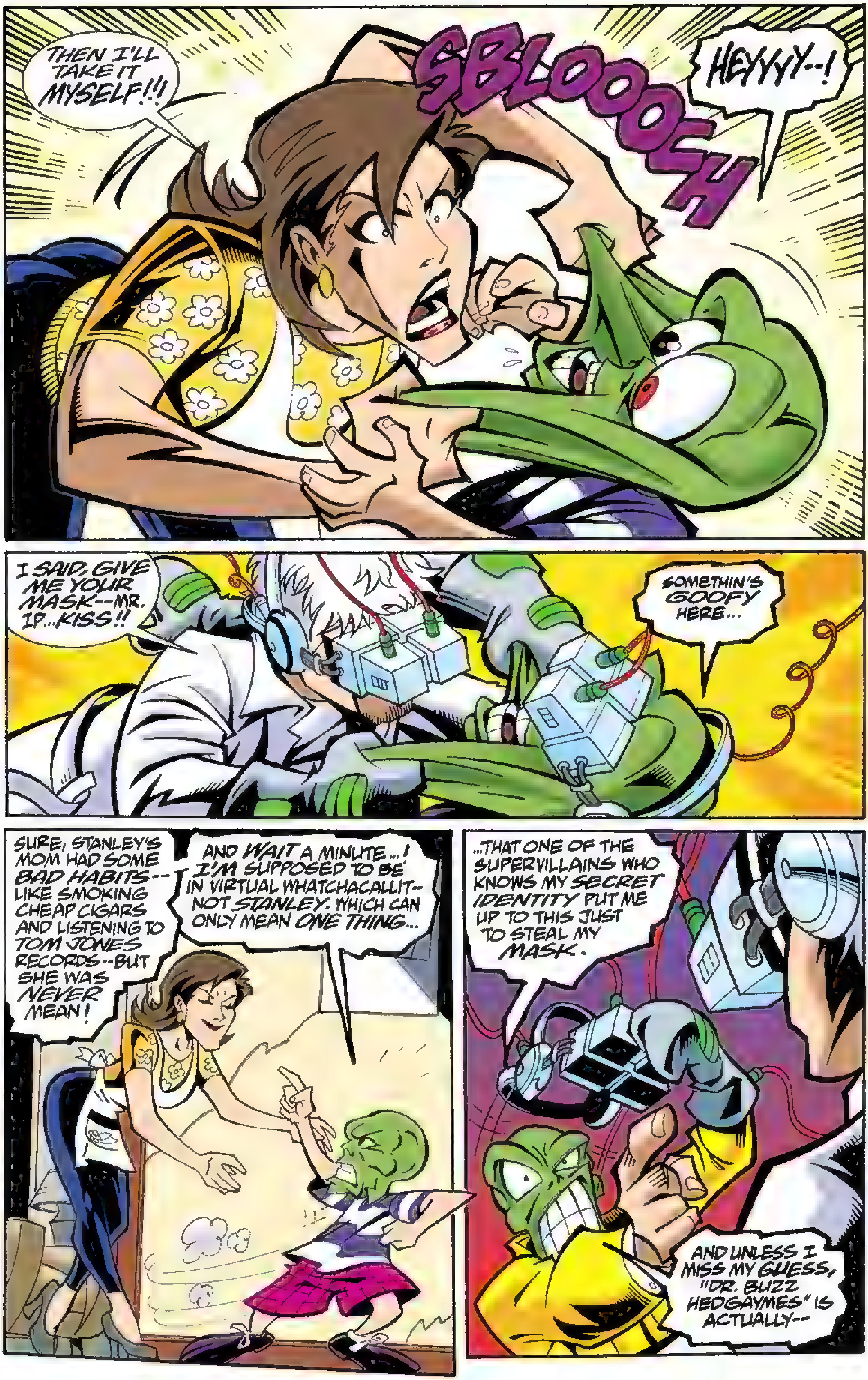

YEEEEE
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE! GET ME OUTTA THIS CONTRAPTION!!
MR. IP...MASK, WHAT'S WRONG--?
ARE YOU FINDING THESE VIRTUAL SURREALITY EXPERIENCES A BIT TOO... HARROWING?
I'VE SEEN SCARIER SIGHTS IN THE MEN'S LOCKER ROOM AT MY GYM!
I JUST GOTTA GO TO THE JOHN. BACK IN A SEC.

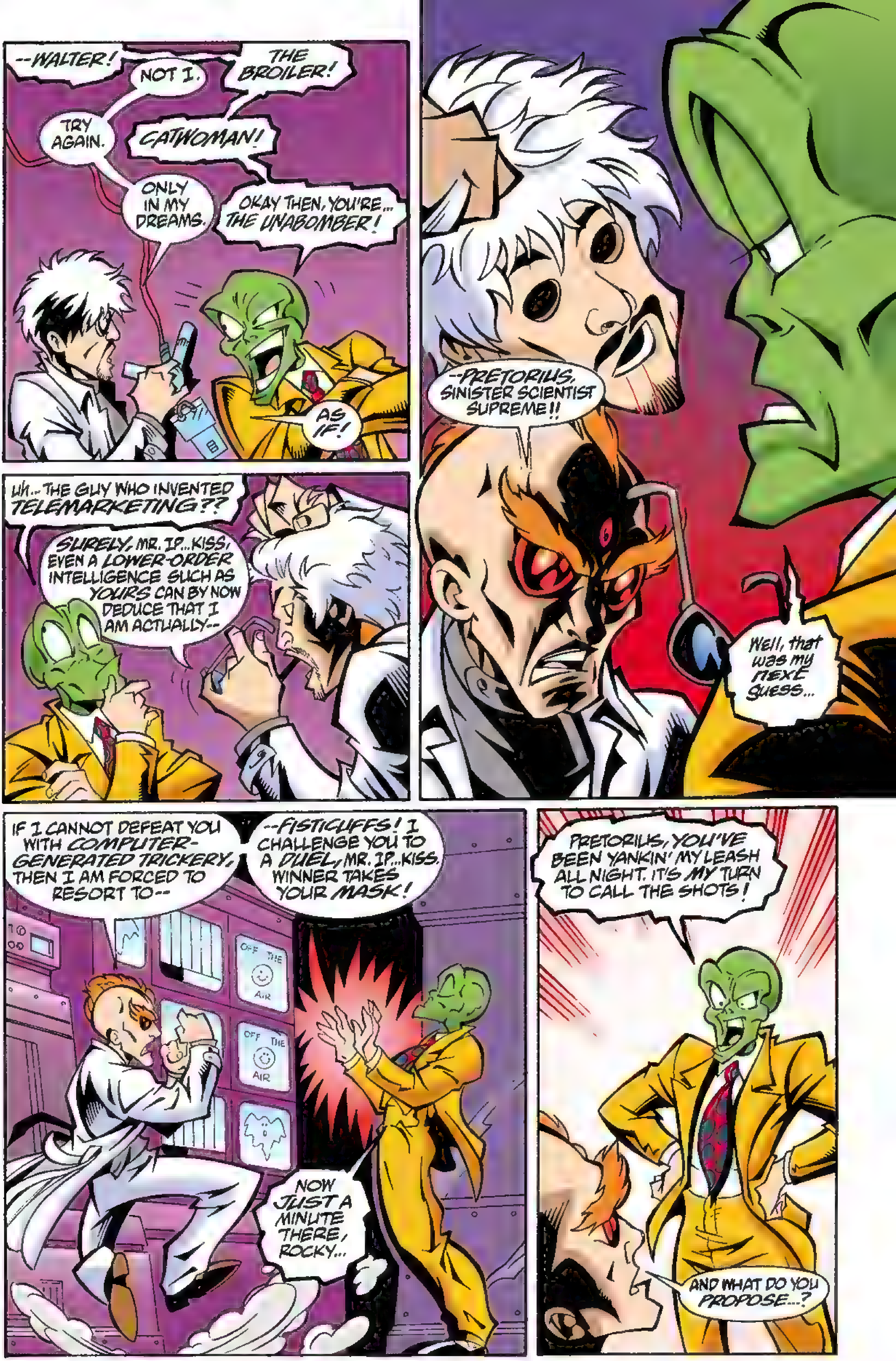

♫
♫♫
♪
♪
KA-WOK

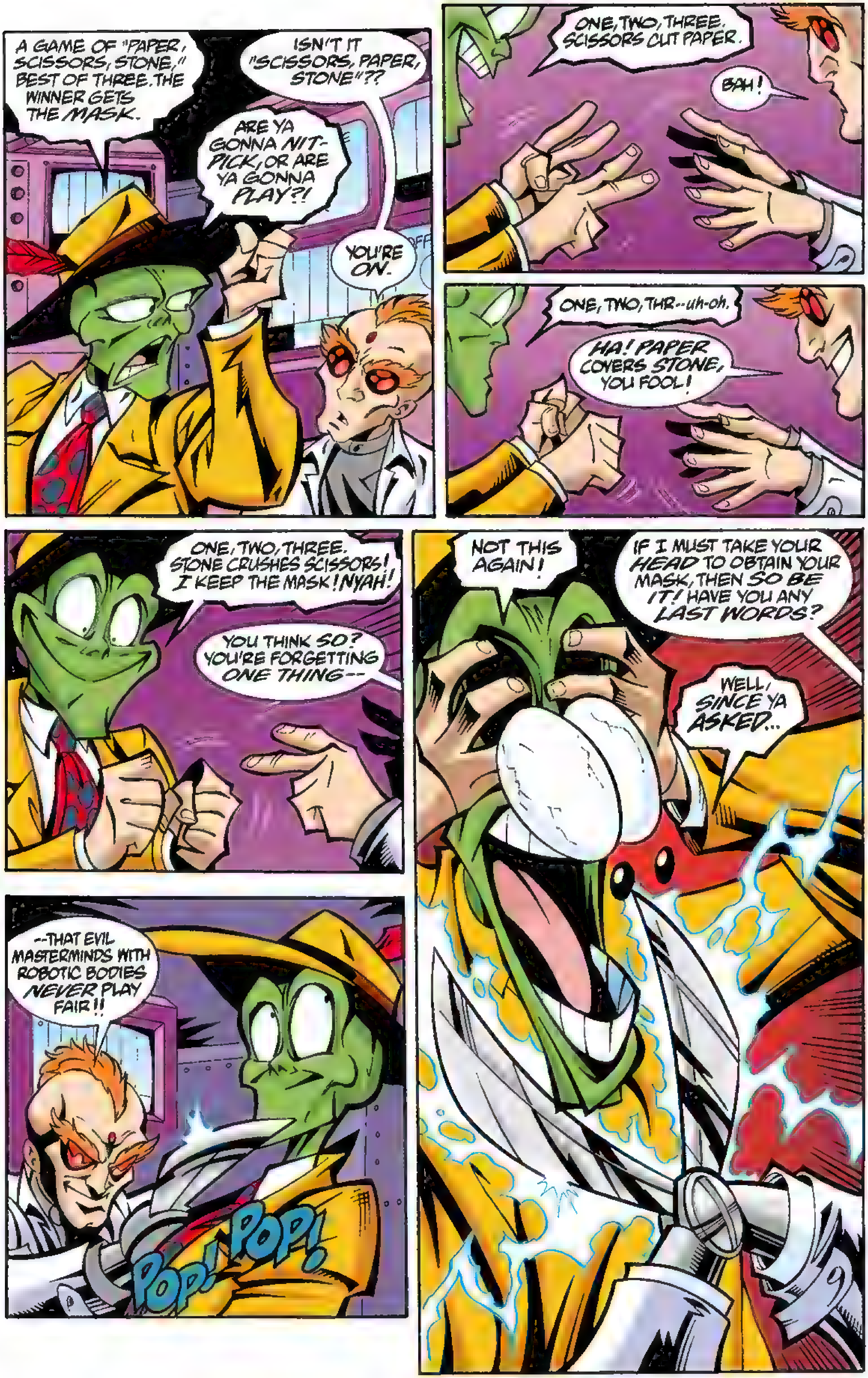

AY-CARAMBA!
♪
♪
♪
SKREEE
AB-BUM GUG SOTH-YOG SUGOTH!
OH NO, NO, NOT MY BIRTHDAY, YOUR BIRTHDAY!
MAKE A WISH, BAD BOY.

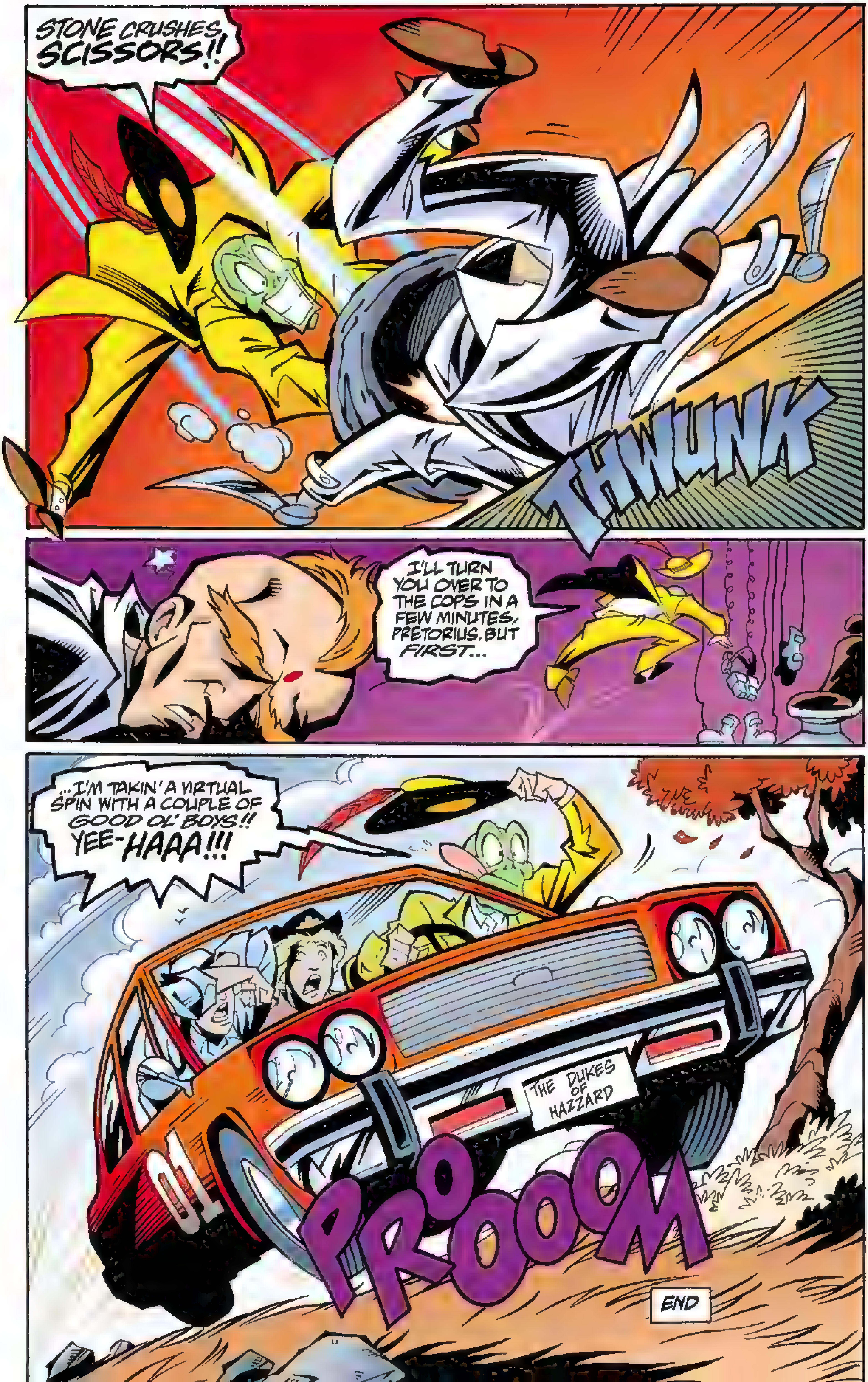

BOOM
SUGOTH
♪
BLALALALALA
FOR H.P.L.


YOWZA! THIS IS THE WEIRDEST ONE YET!
EITHER I'M STANLEY AS A KID, OR I'VE BEEN TURNED INTO BOBBY BRADY.
STANLEY...
HAZZARD
M-MOM...?
YES, STANLEY DEAR. IT'S MOMMY.
HALLOWEEN IS OVER, STANLEY HONEY. ISN'T IT TIME TO TAKE OFF THAT SILLY MASK?
YOU SURE IT'S OVER? I DON'T FEEL SICK FROM PIGGING OUT ON KANDY KORN.
STANLEY IPKISS! DON'T SASS YOUR MOTHER! TAKE OFF THAT MASK AND GIVE IT TO ME NOW!
NO! IT'S MY MASK, AND I DON'T WANNA TAKE IT OFF!

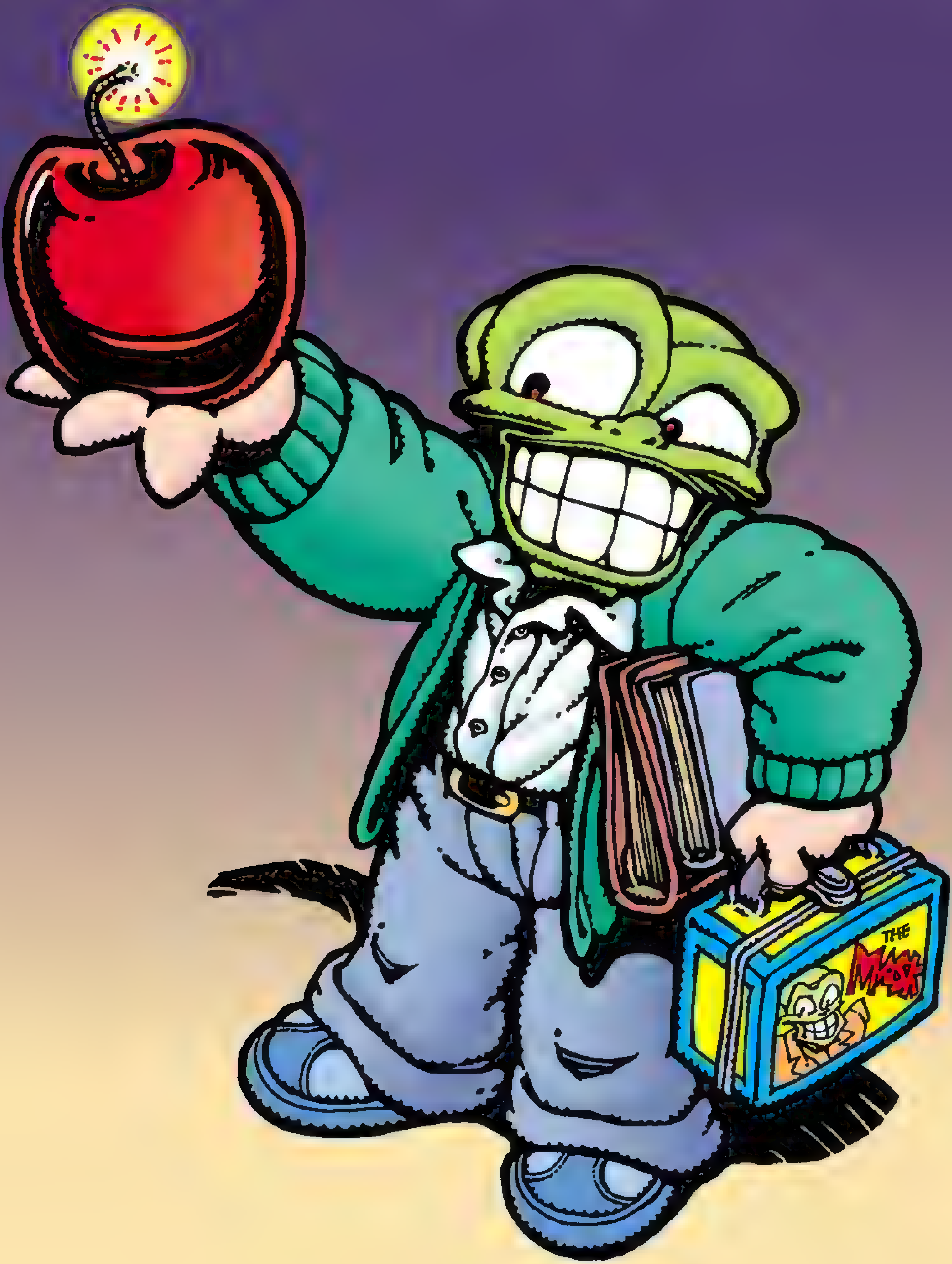

THEN I'LL TAKE IT MYSELF!!!
SBLOOOCH
HEYYYY--!
I SAID, GIVE ME YOUR MASK--MR. IP...KISS!!
SOMETHIN'S GOOFY HERE...
SURE, STANLEY'S MOM HAD SOME BAD HABITS--LIKE SMOKING CHEAP CIGARS AND LISTENING TO TOM JONES RECORDS--BUT SHE WAS NEVER MEAN!
AND WAIT A MINUTE...! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE IN VIRTUAL WHATCHACALLIT--NOT STANLEY. WHICH CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING...
...THAT ONE OF THE SUPERVILLAINS WHO KNOWS MY SECRET IDENTITY PUT ME UP TO THIS JUST TO STEAL MY MASK.
AND UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, "DR. BUZZ HEDGAYMES" IS ACTUALLY--


--WALTER!
NOT I.
THE BROILER!
TRY AGAIN.
CATWOMAN!
ONLY IN MY DREAMS.
OKAY THEN, YOU'RE... THE UNABOMBER!
AS IF!
Uh... THE GUY WHO INVENTED TELEMARKETING??
SURELY, MR. IP...KISS, EVEN A LOWER-ORDER INTELLIGENCE SUCH AS YOURS CAN BY NOW DEDUCE THAT I AM ACTUALLY--
--PRETORIUS, SINISTER SCIENTIST SUPREME!!
Well, that was my next guess...
IF I CANNOT DEFEAT YOU WITH COMPUTER-GENERATED TRICKERY, THEN I AM FORCED TO RESORT TO--
--FISTICUFFS! I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL, MR. IP...KISS. WINNER TAKES YOUR MASK!
OFF THE AIR
OFF THE AIR
NOW JUST A MINUTE THERE, ROCKY...
PRETORIUS, YOU'VE BEEN YANKIN' MY LEASH ALL NIGHT. IT'S MY TURN TO CALL THE SHOTS!
AND WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE...?

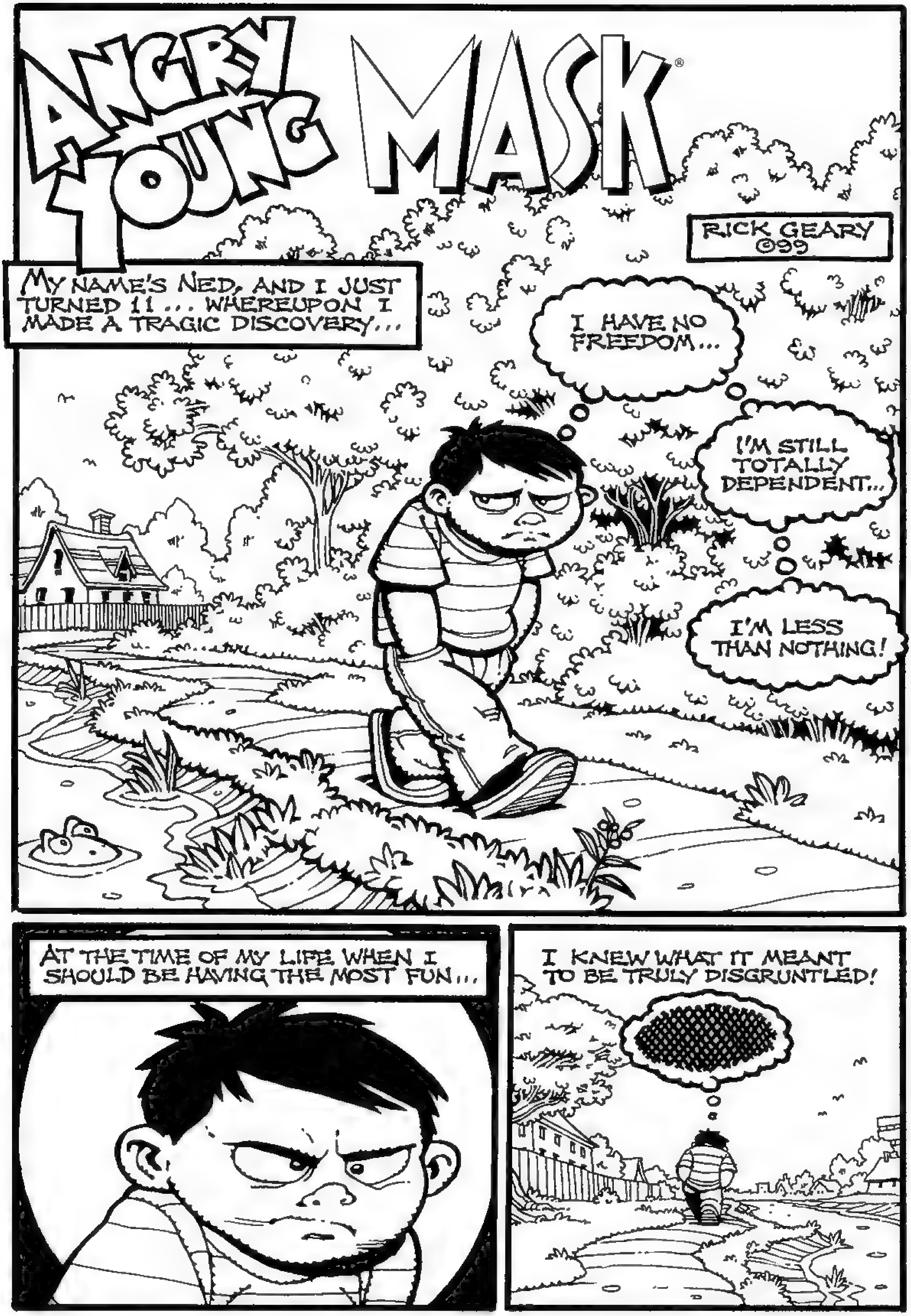

A GAME OF "PAPER, SCISSORS, STONE," BEST OF THREE. THE WINNER GETS THE *MASK*.
ISN'T IT "SCISSORS, PAPER, STONE"??
ARE YA GONNA *NIT-PICK*, OR ARE YA GONNA *PLAY*?!
YOU'RE ON.
OFF
ONE, TWO, THREE. SCISSORS CUT PAPER.
BAH!
ONE, TWO, THR--*uh-oh*.
HA! PAPER COVERS *STONE*, YOU FOOL!
ONE, TWO, THREE. STONE CRUSHES SCISSORS! I KEEP THE MASK! *NYAH!*
YOU THINK *SO*? YOU'RE FORGETTING *ONE THING*--
--THAT EVIL MASTERMINDS WITH ROBOTIC BODIES *NEVER* PLAY FAIR!!
POP! POP!
NOT THIS AGAIN!
IF I MUST TAKE YOUR *HEAD* TO OBTAIN YOUR MASK, THEN *SO BE IT!* HAVE YOU ANY *LAST WORDS?*
WELL, SINCE YA *ASKED*...

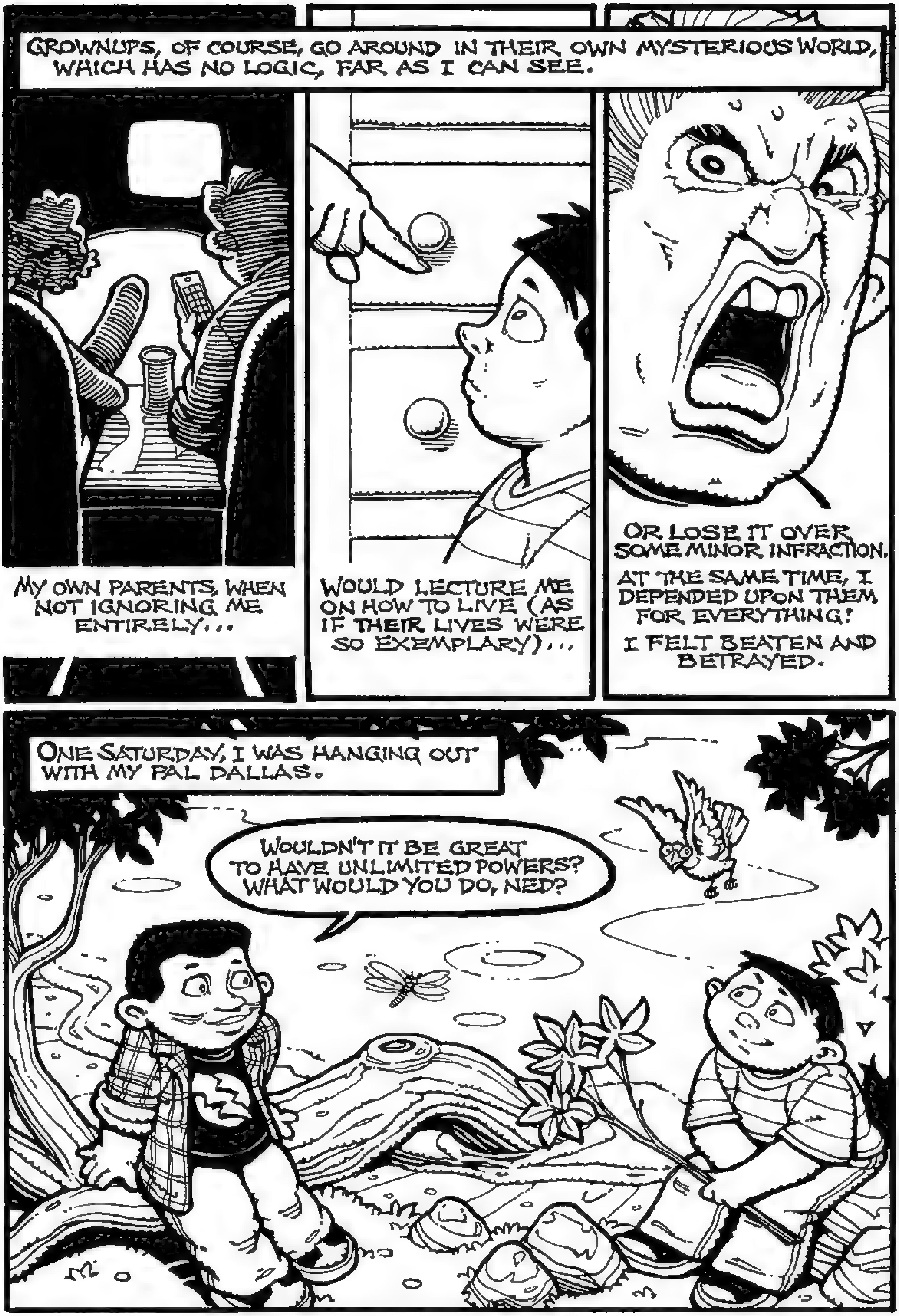

STONE CRUSHES SCISSORS!!
THWUNK
I'LL TURN YOU OVER TO THE COPS IN A FEW MINUTES, PRETORIUS. BUT *FIRST*...
...I'M TAKIN' A VIRTUAL SPIN WITH A COUPLE OF GOOD OL' BOYS!! YEE-HAAA!!!
THE DUKES OF HAZZARD
01
PROOOOM
END

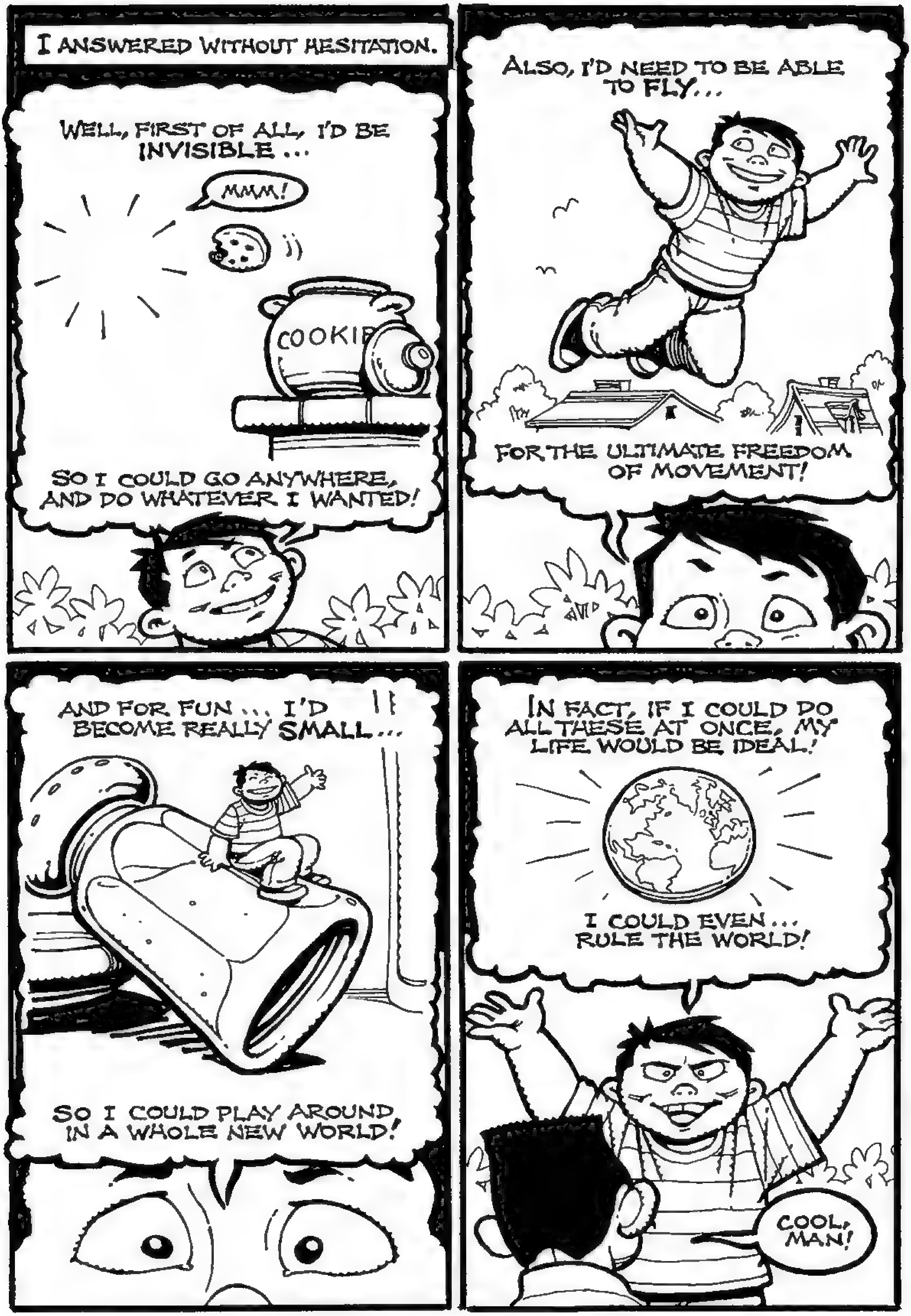
ANGRY YOUNG MASK

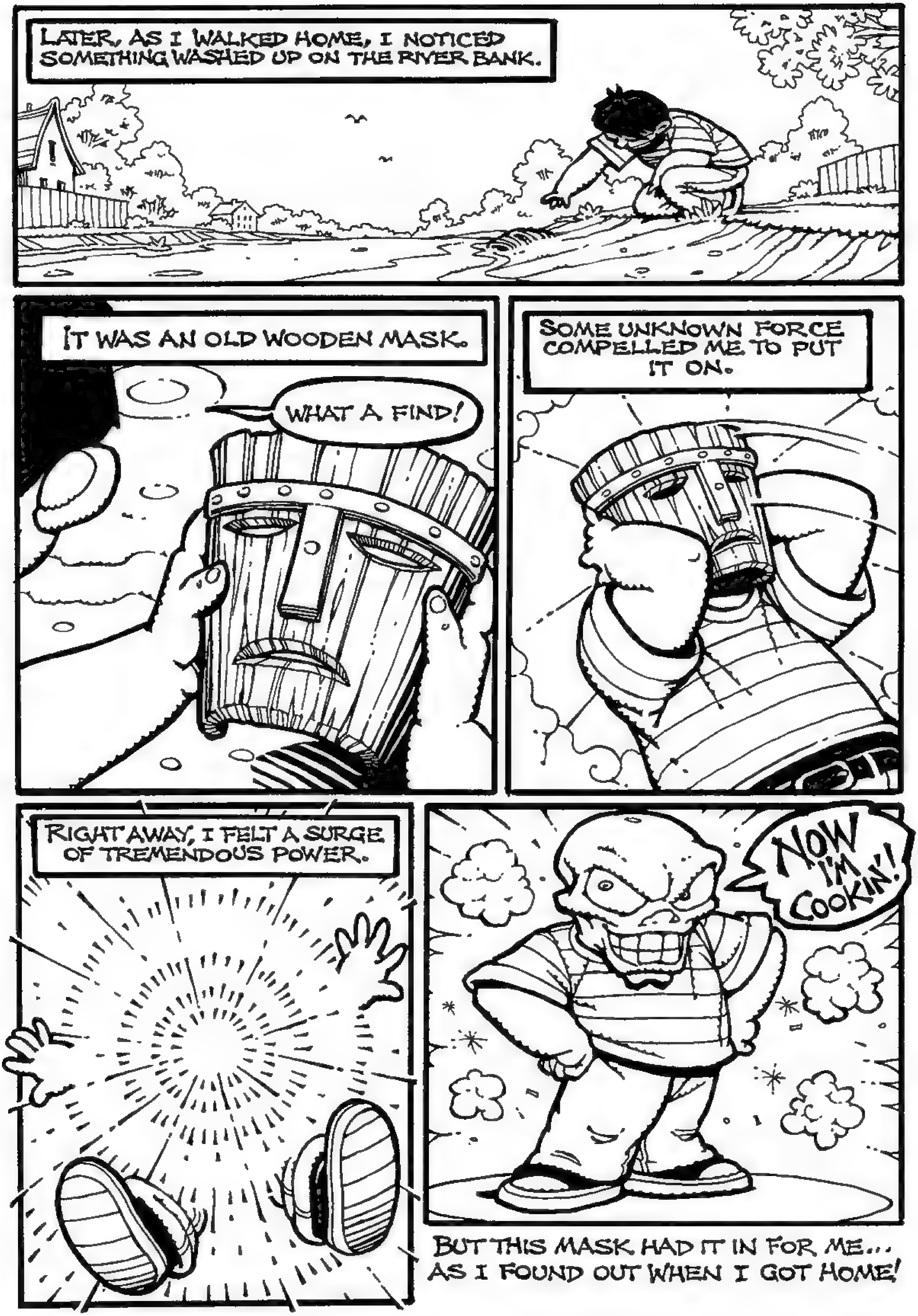


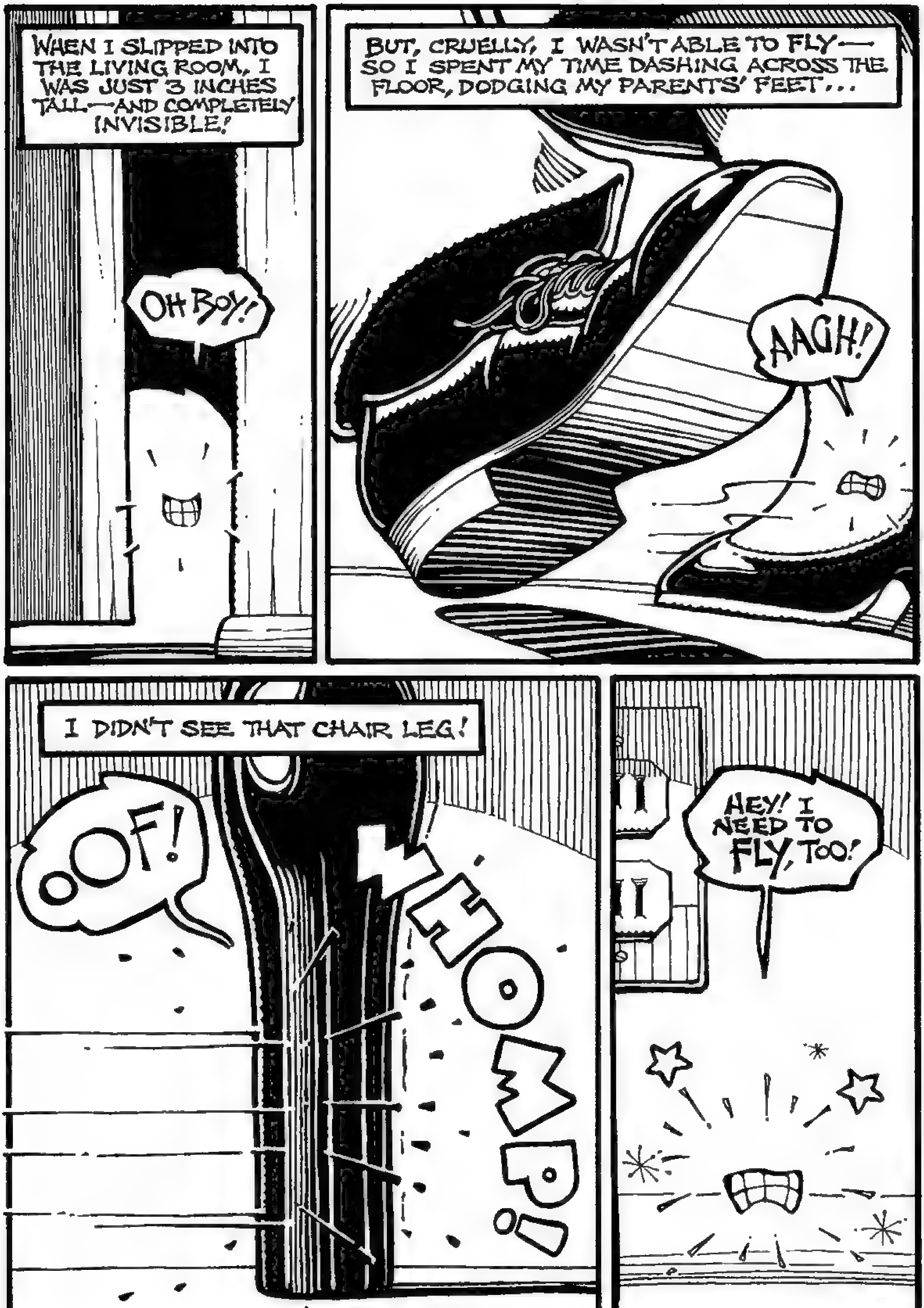
script, art, lettering, and title illustration
RICK GEARY

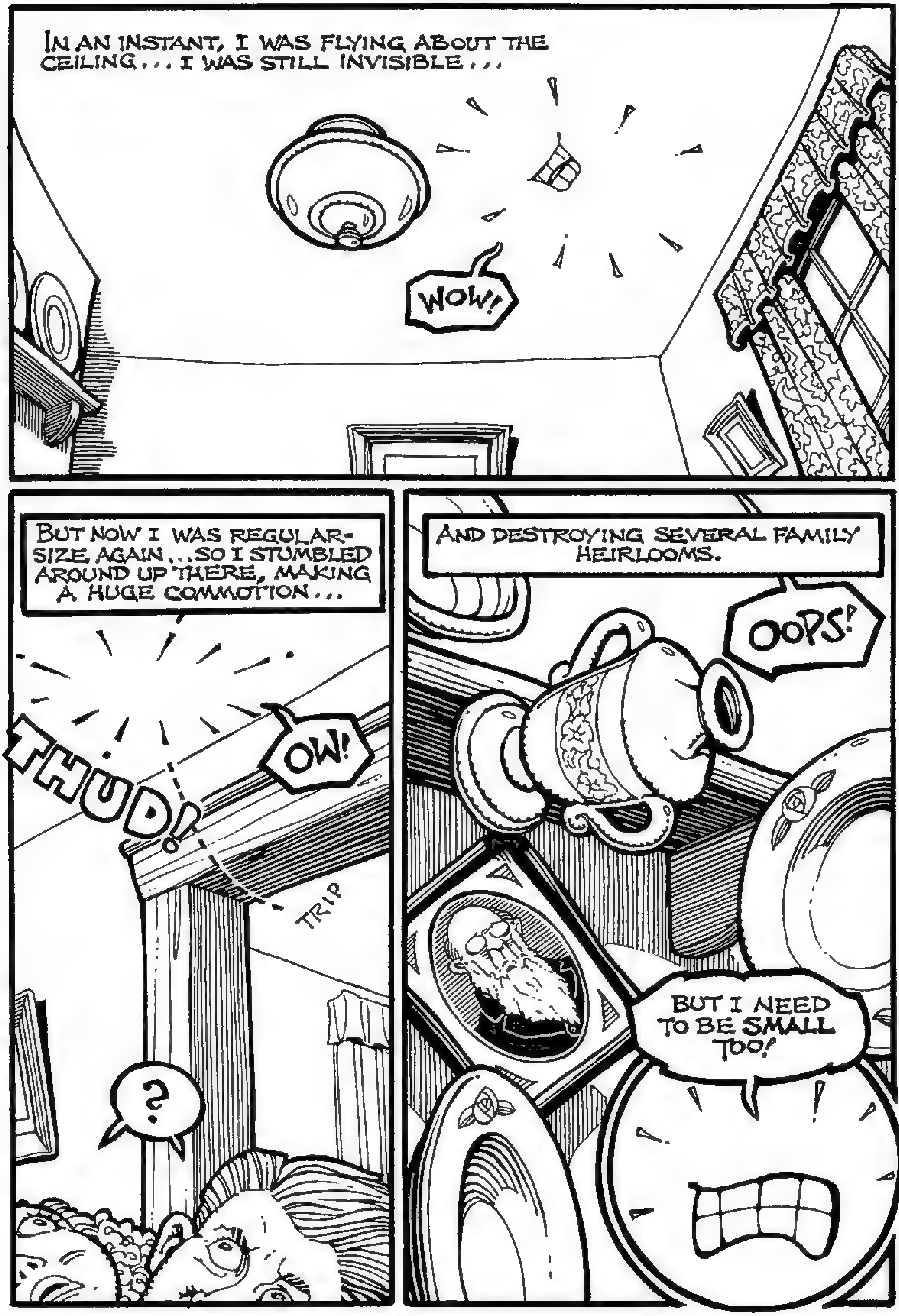

ANGRY YOUNG MASK®
RICK GEARY ©99
MY NAME'S NED, AND I JUST TURNED 11... WHEREUPON I MADE A TRAGIC DISCOVERY...
I HAVE NO FREEDOM...
I'M STILL TOTALLY DEPENDENT...
I'M LESS THAN NOTHING!
AT THE TIME OF MY LIFE WHEN I SHOULD BE HAVING THE MOST FUN...
I KNEW WHAT IT MEANT TO BE TRULY DISGRUNTLED!

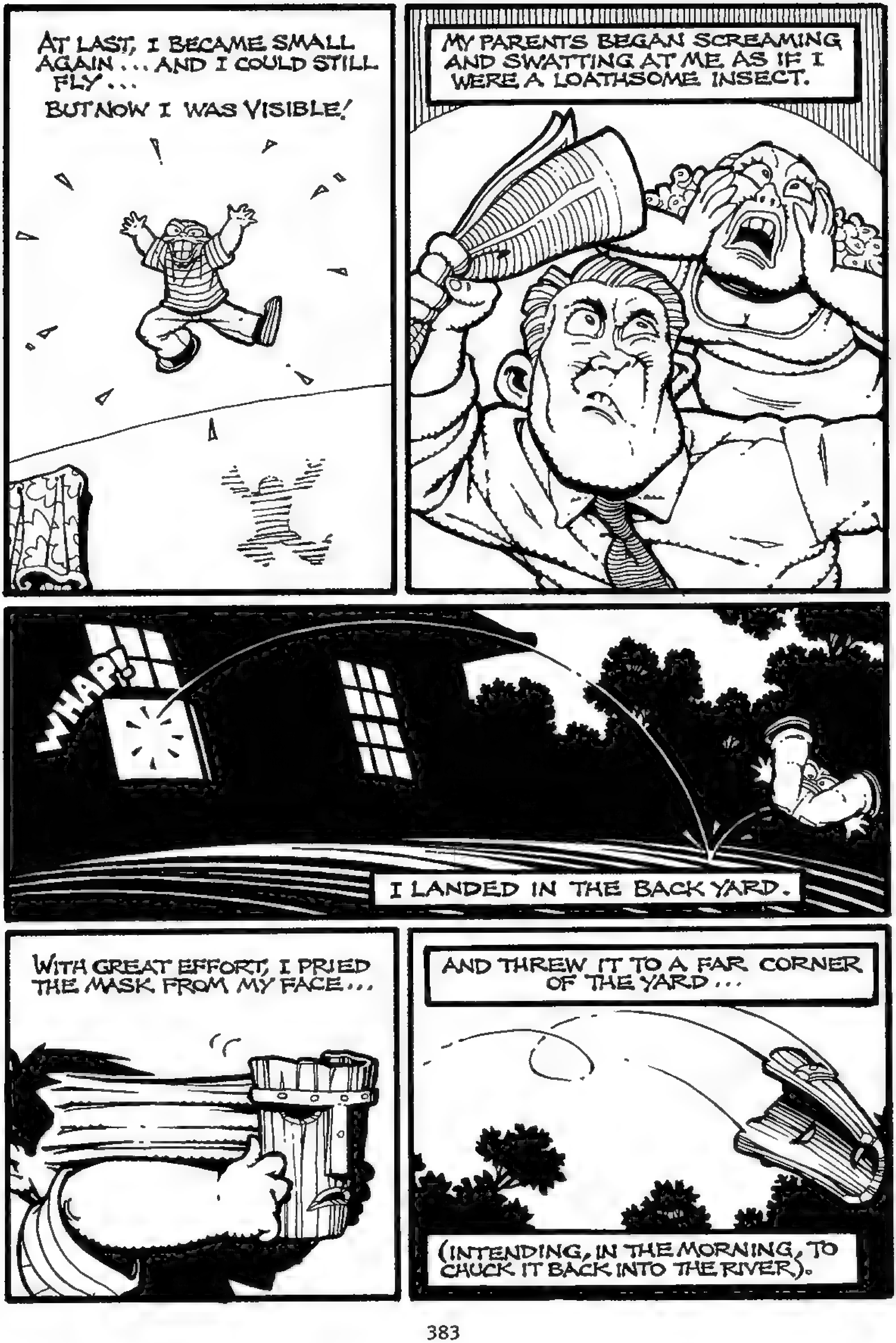

GROWNUPS, OF COURSE, GO AROUND IN THEIR OWN MYSTERIOUS WORLD, WHICH HAS NO LOGIC, FAR AS I CAN SEE.
MY OWN PARENTS, WHEN NOT IGNORING ME ENTIRELY...
WOULD LECTURE ME ON HOW TO LIVE (AS IF THEIR LIVES WERE SO EXEMPLARY)...
OR LOSE IT OVER SOME MINOR INFRACTION.
AT THE SAME TIME, I DEPENDED UPON THEM FOR EVERYTHING!
I FELT BEATEN AND BETRAYED.
ONE SATURDAY, I WAS HANGING OUT WITH MY PAL DALLAS.
WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO HAVE UNLIMITED POWERS? WHAT WOULD YOU DO, NED?

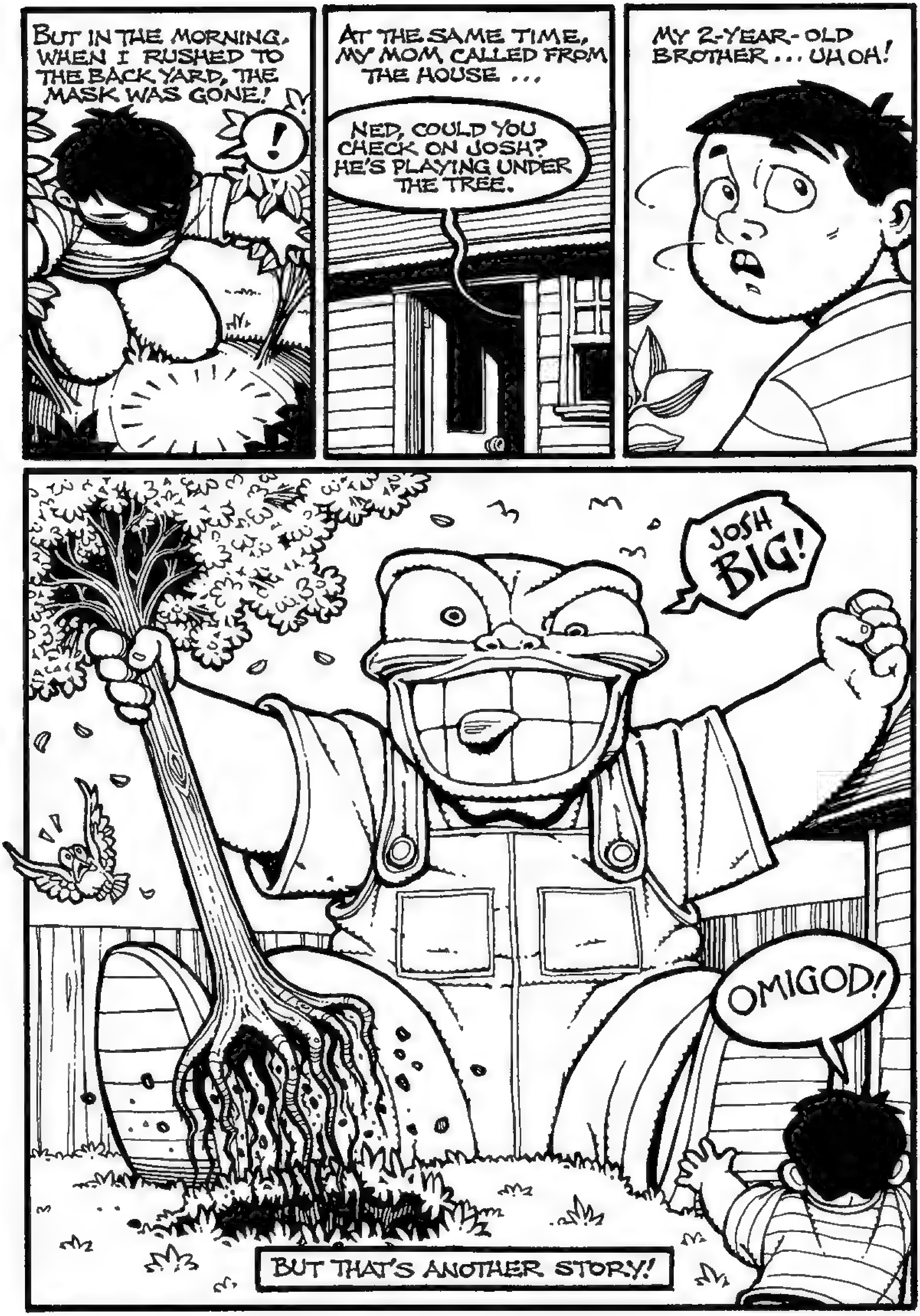

I ANSWERED WITHOUT HESITATION.
WELL, FIRST OF ALL, I'D BE INVISIBLE ...
MMM!
COOKIE
SO I COULD GO ANYWHERE, AND DO WHATEVER I WANTED!
ALSO, I'D NEED TO BE ABLE TO FLY...
FOR THE ULTIMATE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT!
AND FOR FUN ... I'D BECOME REALLY SMALL...
SO I COULD PLAY AROUND IN A WHOLE NEW WORLD!
IN FACT, IF I COULD DO ALL THESE AT ONCE, MY LIFE WOULD BE IDEAL!
I COULD EVEN... RULE THE WORLD!
COOL, MAN!


LATER, AS I WALKED HOME, I NOTICED SOMETHING WASHED UP ON THE RIVER BANK.
IT WAS AN OLD WOODEN MASK.
WHAT A FIND!
SOME UNKNOWN FORCE COMPELLED ME TO PUT IT ON.
RIGHT AWAY, I FELT A SURGE OF TREMENDOUS POWER.
NOW I'M COOKIN'!
BUT THIS MASK HAD IT IN FOR ME... AS I FOUND OUT WHEN I GOT HOME!


WHEN I SLIPPED INTO THE LIVING ROOM, I WAS JUST 3 INCHES TALL—AND COMPLETELY INVISIBLE!
OH BOY!
BUT, CRUELLY, I WASN'T ABLE TO FLY—SO I SPENT MY TIME DASHING ACROSS THE FLOOR, DODGING MY PARENTS' FEET...
AAGH!
I DIDN'T SEE THAT CHAIR LEG!
OOF!
WHOMP!
HEY! I NEED TO FLY, TOO!


IN AN INSTANT, I WAS FLYING ABOUT THE CEILING... I WAS STILL INVISIBLE...
WOW!
BUT NOW I WAS REGULAR-SIZE AGAIN... SO I STUMBLED AROUND UP THERE, MAKING A HUGE COMMOTION...
THUD!
OW!
TRIP
?
AND DESTROYING SEVERAL FAMILY HEIRLOOMS.
OOPS!
BUT I NEED TO BE SMALL TOO!


AT LAST, I BECAME SMALL AGAIN ... AND I COULD STILL FLY ...
BUT NOW I WAS VISIBLE!
MY PARENTS BEGAN SCREAMING AND SWATTING AT ME AS IF I WERE A LOATHSOME INSECT.
WHAP!
I LANDED IN THE BACK YARD.
WITH GREAT EFFORT, I PRIED THE MASK FROM MY FACE...
AND THREW IT TO A FAR CORNER OF THE YARD ...
(INTENDING, IN THE MORNING, TO CHUCK IT BACK INTO THE RIVER).


BUT IN THE MORNING, WHEN I RUSHED TO THE BACK YARD, THE MASK WAS GONE!
!
AT THE SAME TIME, MY MOM CALLED FROM THE HOUSE ...
NED, COULD YOU CHECK ON JOSH? HE'S PLAYING UNDER THE TREE.
MY 2-YEAR-OLD BROTHER . . . UH OH!
JOSH BIG!
OMIGOD!
BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY!

NO MASK IS AN ISLAND

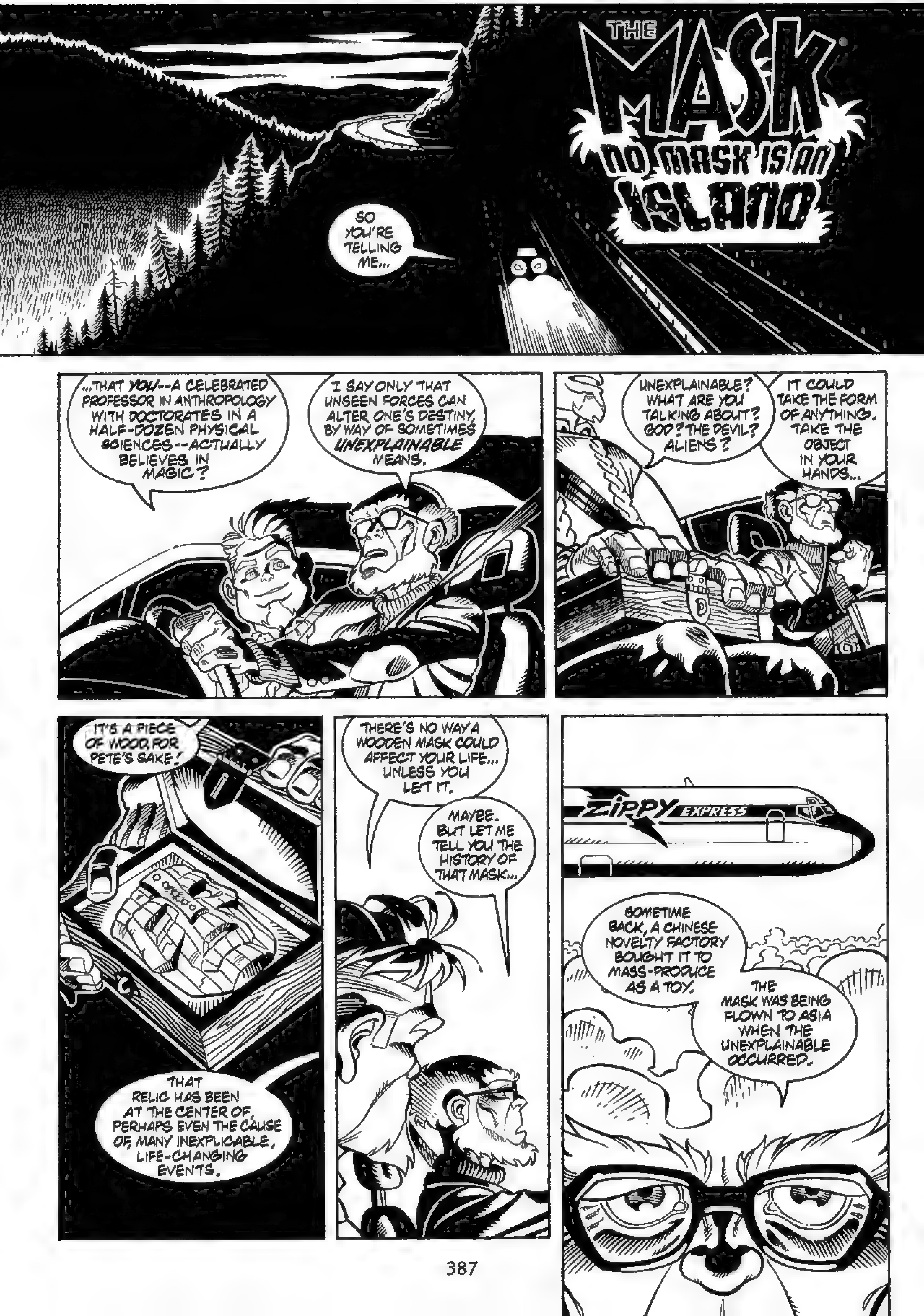
script
HENRY GILROY

pencils
LUCAS MARANGON

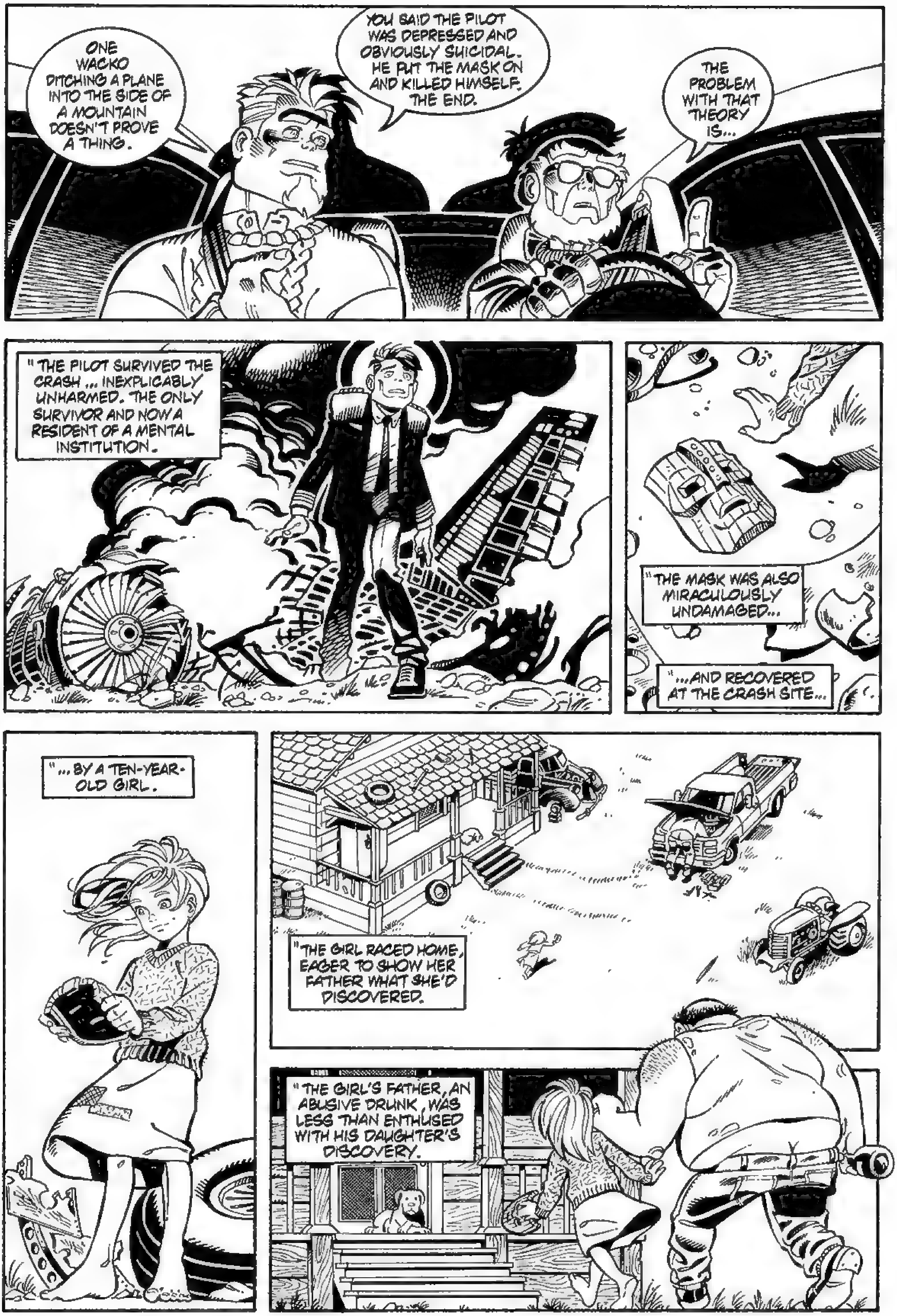
inks
RANDY EMBERLIN

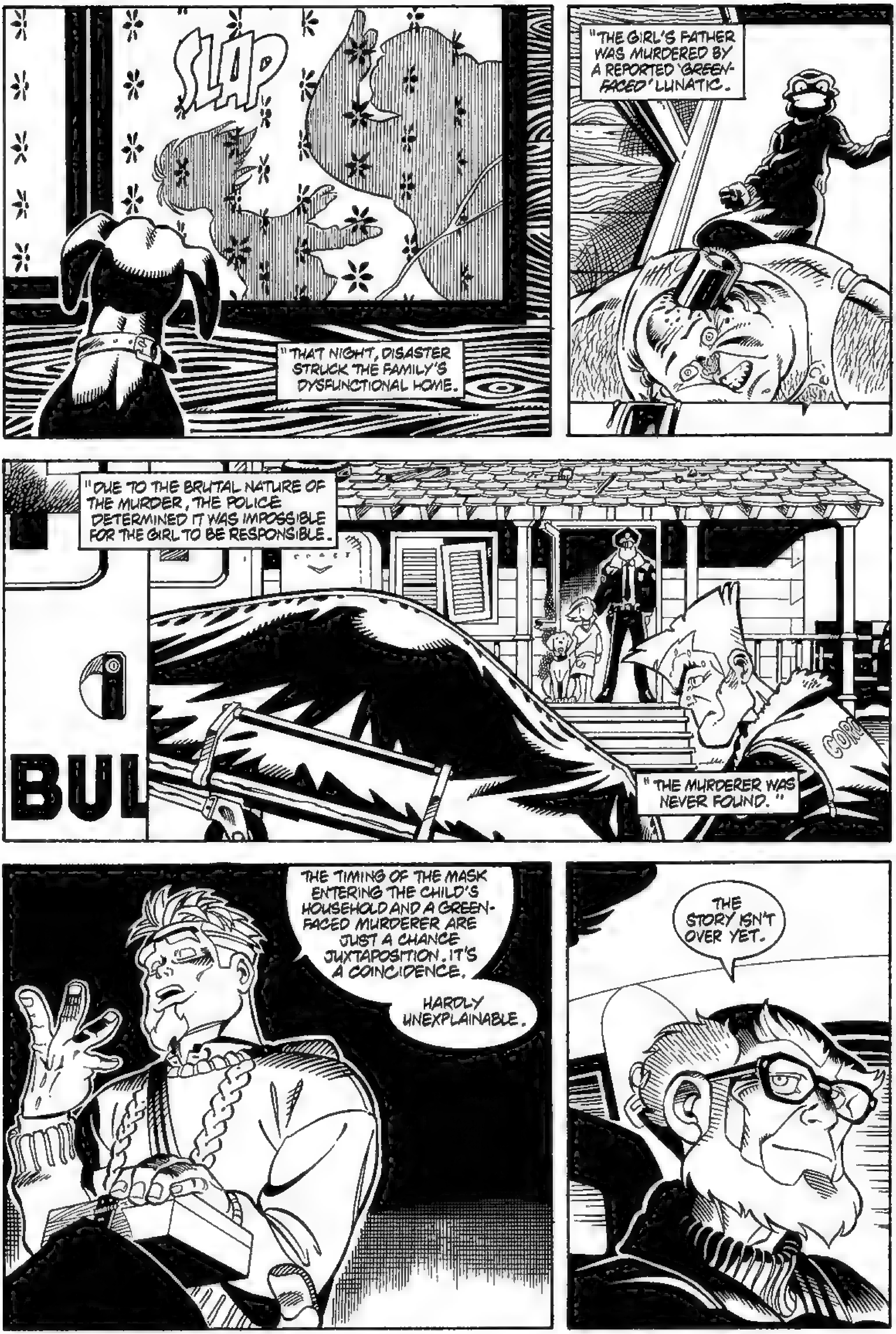
lettering
STEVE DUTRO

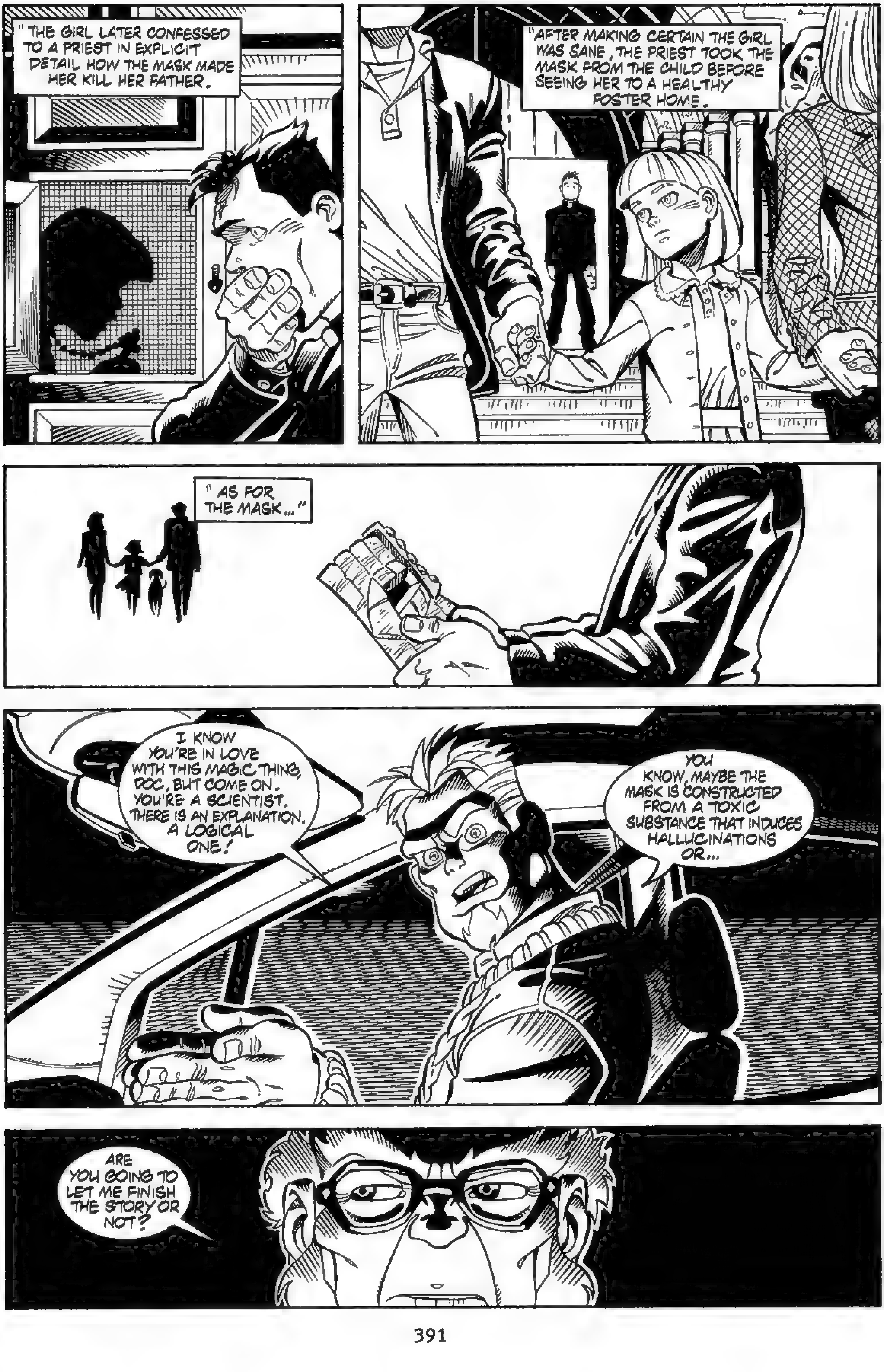
title illustration
BRUCE TIMM

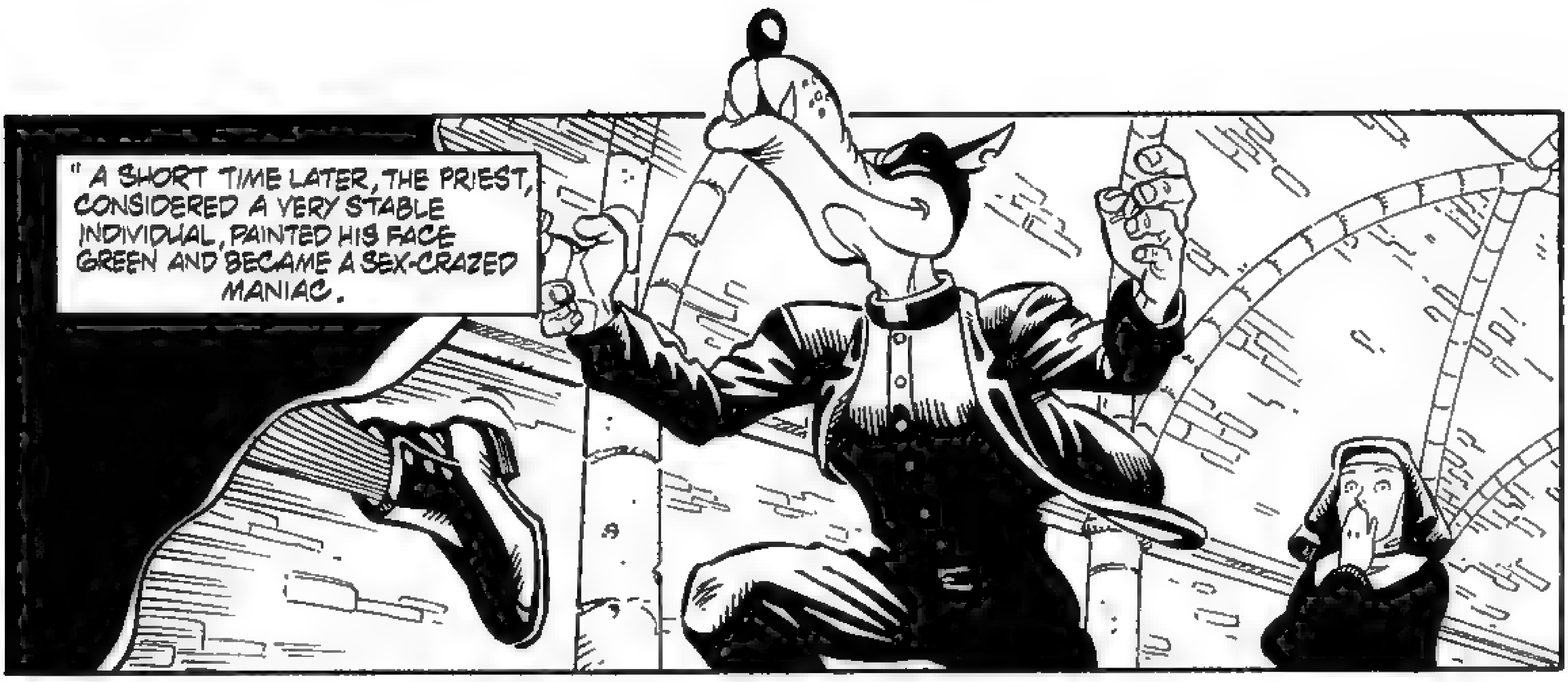

THE MASK
NO MASK IS AN ISLAND
SO YOU'RE TELLING ME...
...THAT YOU--A CELEBRATED PROFESSOR IN ANTHROPOLOGY WITH DOCTORATES IN A HALF-DOZEN PHYSICAL SCIENCES--ACTUALLY BELIEVES IN MAGIC?
I SAY ONLY THAT UNSEEN FORCES CAN ALTER ONE'S DESTINY, BY WAY OF SOMETIMES UNEXPLAINABLE MEANS.
UNEXPLAINABLE? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? GOD? THE DEVIL? ALIENS?
IT COULD TAKE THE FORM OF ANYTHING. TAKE THE OBJECT IN YOUR HANDS...
IT'S A PIECE OF WOOD, FOR PETE'S SAKE!
THAT RELIC HAS BEEN AT THE CENTER OF, PERHAPS EVEN THE CAUSE OF, MANY INEXPLICABLE, LIFE-CHANGING EVENTS.
THERE'S NO WAY A WOODEN MASK COULD AFFECT YOUR LIFE... UNLESS YOU LET IT.
MAYBE. BUT LET ME TELL YOU THE HISTORY OF THAT MASK...
ZIPPY EXPRESS
SOMETIME BACK, A CHINESE NOVELTY FACTORY BOUGHT IT TO MASS-PRODUCE AS A TOY.
THE MASK WAS BEING FLOWN TO ASIA WHEN THE UNEXPLAINABLE OCCURRED.

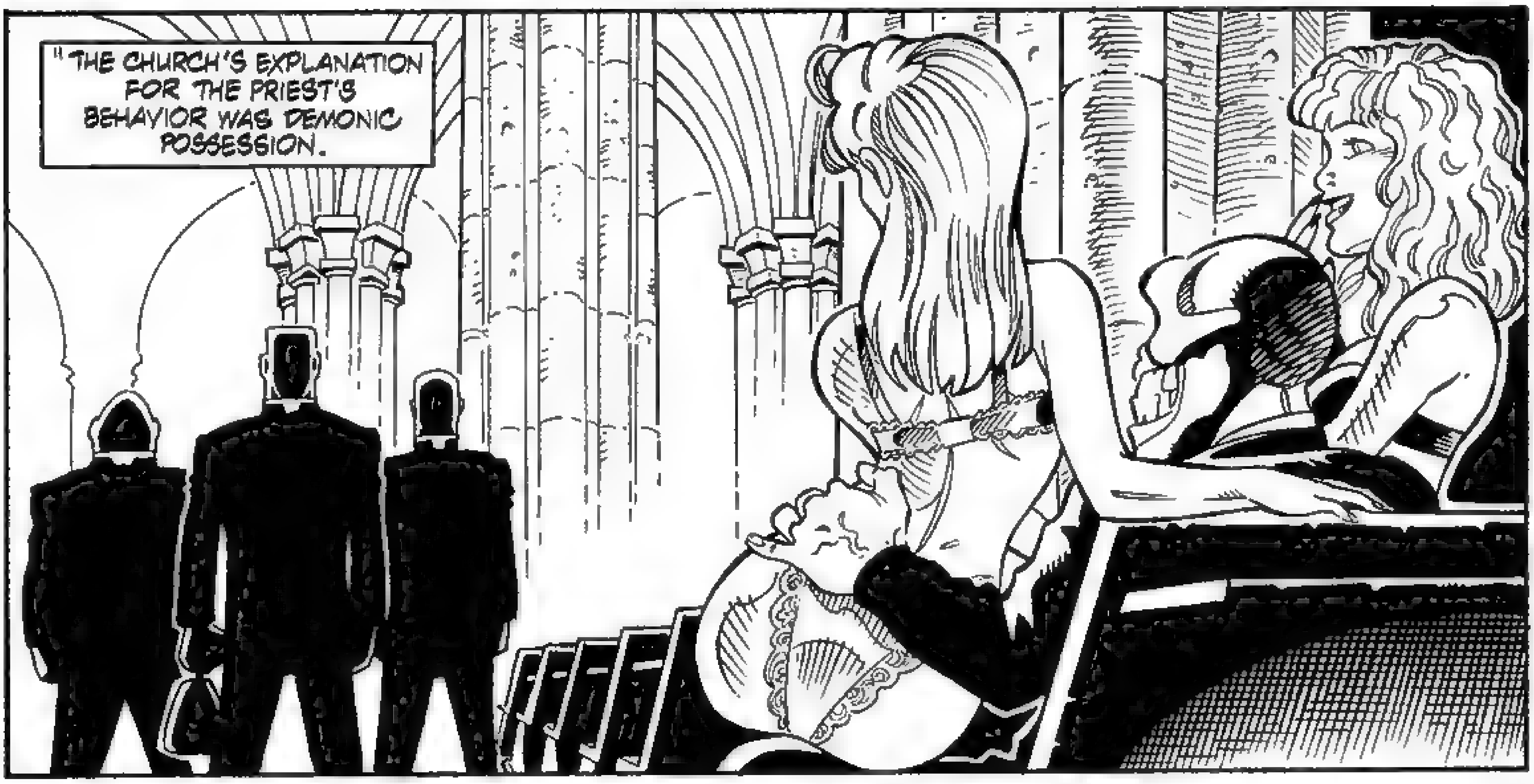
"THE PILOT WAS DEPRESSED, HAVING JUST LOST HIS WIFE TO DISEASE.
"HE WAS LAST SEEN AS 'HIMSELF' TAKING A WALK INTO THE CARGO AREA.
"WHAT HAPPENED NEXT IS UNEXPLAINED.
"THE LAST TRANSMISSION FROM THE COCKPIT WAS CHAOS, AS THE PILOT HAD GONE INSANE, PUT ON A GREEN MASK...
"...AND WAS ATTEMPTING TO CRASH THE AIRCRAFT.
"IN THE END, HE WAS SUCCESSFUL."

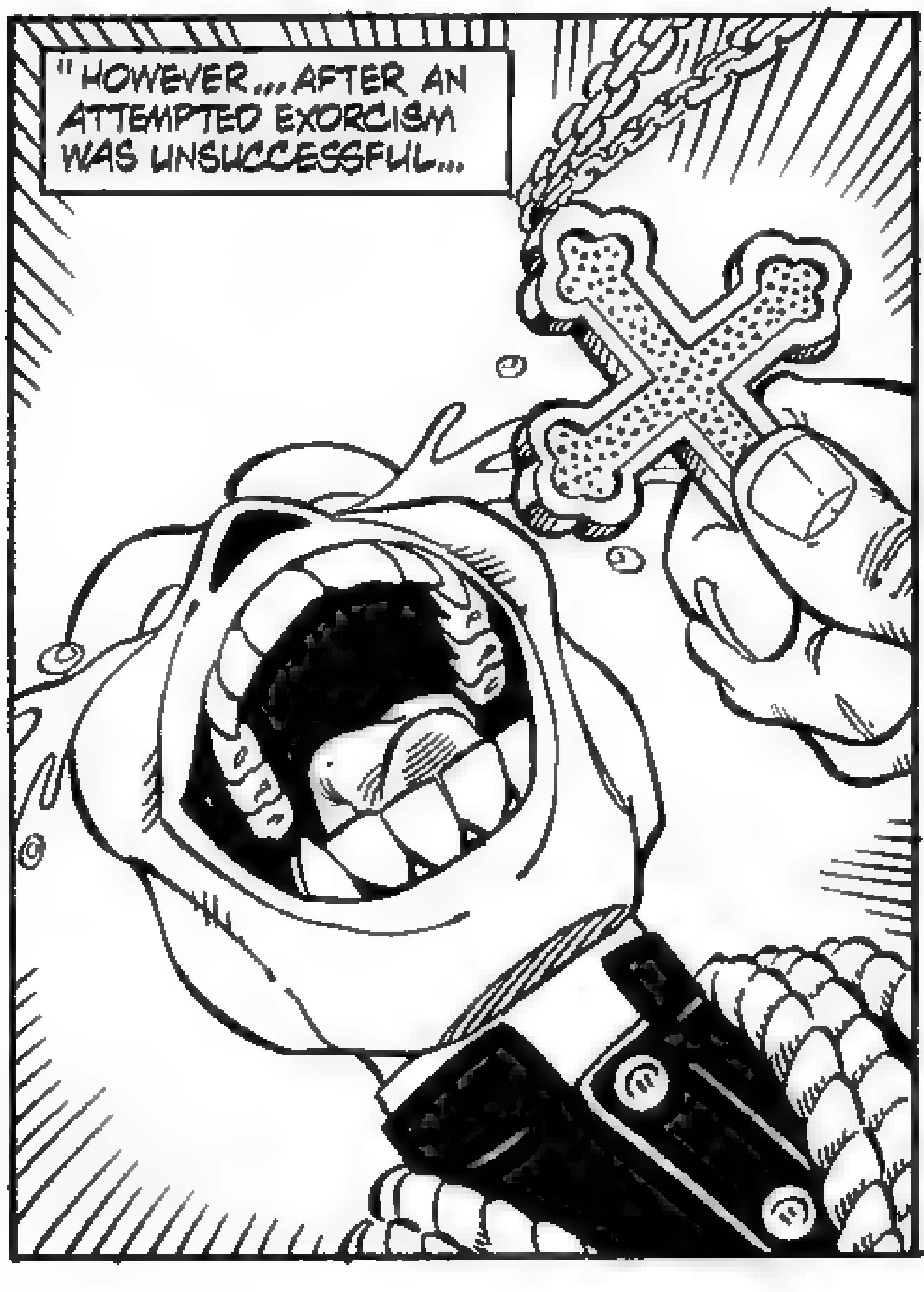

ONE WACKO DITCHING A PLANE INTO THE SIDE OF A MOUNTAIN DOESN'T PROVE A THING.
YOU SAID THE PILOT WAS DEPRESSED AND OBVIOUSLY SUICIDAL. HE PUT THE MASK ON AND KILLED HIMSELF. THE END.
THE PROBLEM WITH THAT THEORY IS...
"THE PILOT SURVIVED THE CRASH ... INEXPLICABLY UNHARMED. THE ONLY SURVIVOR AND NOW A RESIDENT OF A MENTAL INSTITUTION.
"THE MASK WAS ALSO MIRACULOUSLY UNDAMAGED...
"...AND RECOVERED AT THE CRASH SITE...
"...BY A TEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL.
"THE GIRL RACED HOME, EAGER TO SHOW HER FATHER WHAT SHE'D DISCOVERED.
"THE GIRL'S FATHER, AN ABUSIVE DRUNK, WAS LESS THAN ENTHUSED WITH HIS DAUGHTER'S DISCOVERY.

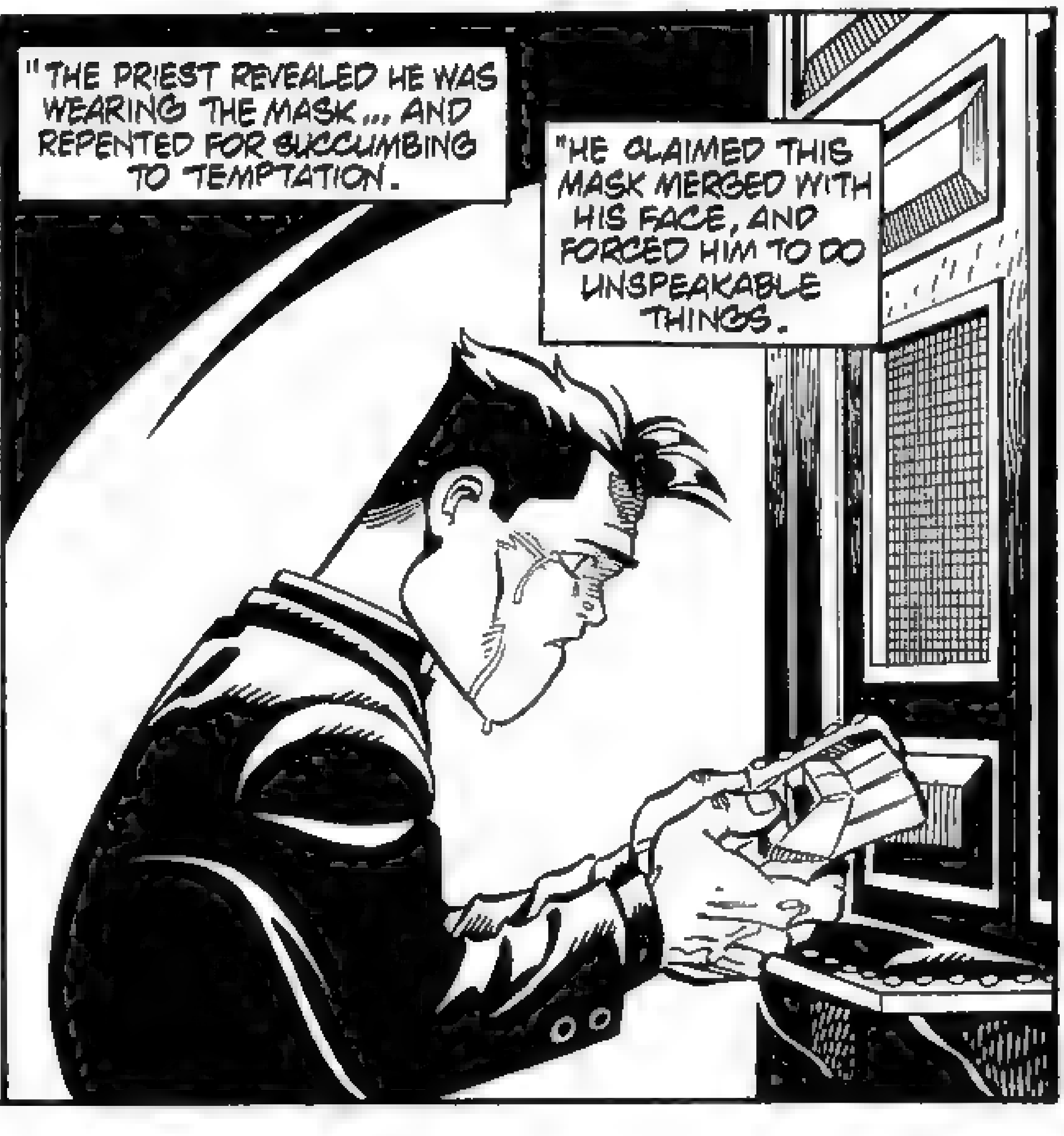

SLAP
"THAT NIGHT, DISASTER STRUCK THE FAMILY'S DYSFUNCTIONAL HOME.
"THE GIRL'S FATHER WAS MURDERED BY A REPORTED 'GREEN-FACED' LUNATIC.
"DUE TO THE BRUTAL NATURE OF THE MURDER, THE POLICE DETERMINED IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE GIRL TO BE RESPONSIBLE.
BUL
COR
"THE MURDERER WAS NEVER FOUND."
THE TIMING OF THE MASK ENTERING THE CHILD'S HOUSEHOLD AND A GREEN-FACED MURDERER ARE JUST A CHANCE JUXTAPOSITION. IT'S A COINCIDENCE.
HARDLY UNEXPLAINABLE.
THE STORY ISN'T OVER YET.

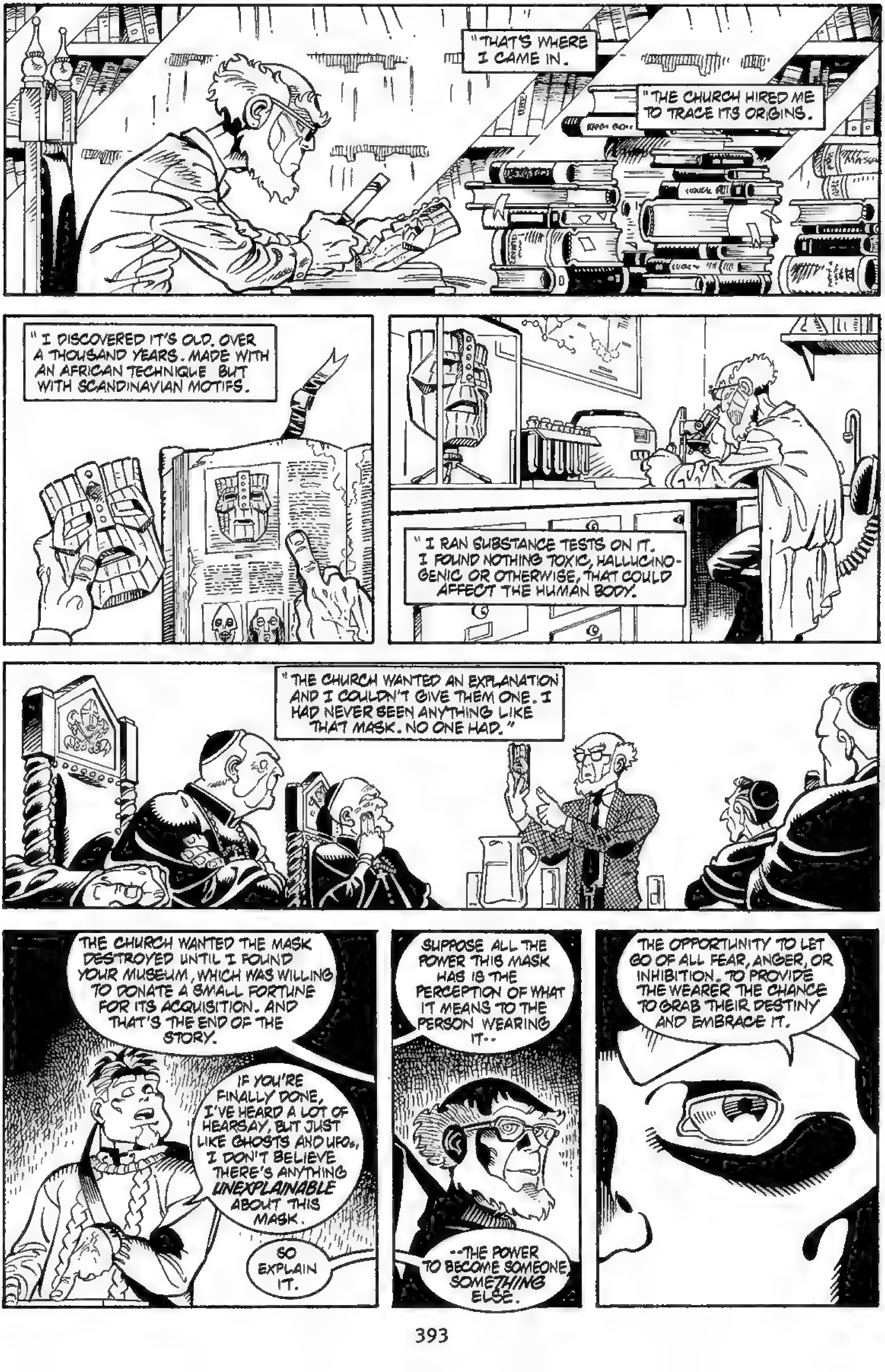

"THE GIRL LATER CONFESSED TO A PRIEST IN EXPLICIT DETAIL HOW THE MASK MADE HER KILL HER FATHER.
"AFTER MAKING CERTAIN THE GIRL WAS SANE, THE PRIEST TOOK THE MASK FROM THE CHILD BEFORE SEEING HER TO A HEALTHY FOSTER HOME.
"AS FOR THE MASK..."
I KNOW YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THIS MAGIC THING, DOC, BUT COME ON. YOU'RE A SCIENTIST. THERE IS AN EXPLANATION. A LOGICAL ONE!
YOU KNOW, MAYBE THE MASK IS CONSTRUCTED FROM A TOXIC SUBSTANCE THAT INDUCES HALLUCINATIONS OR...
ARE YOU GOING TO LET ME FINISH THE STORY OR NOT?

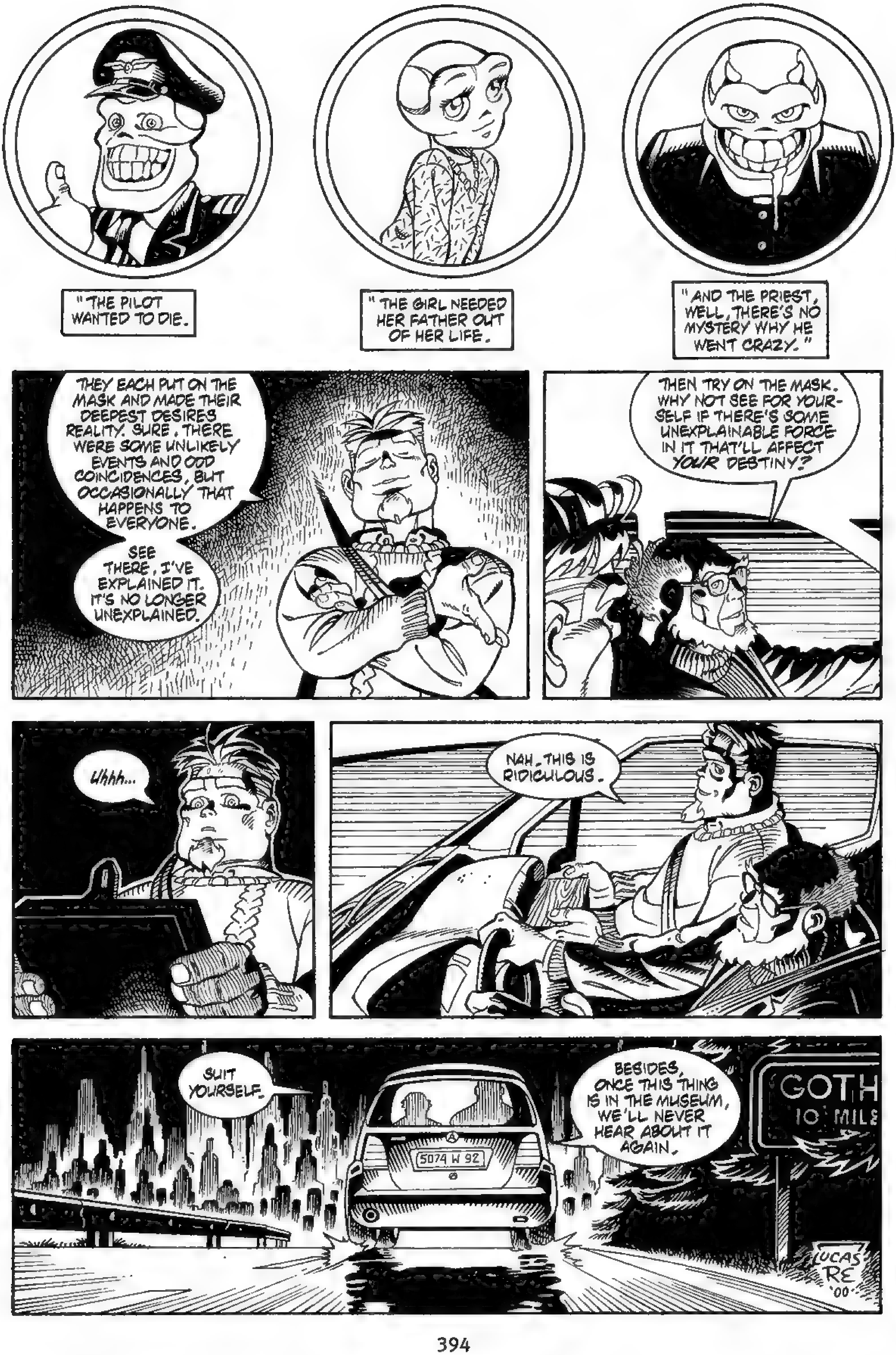

"A SHORT TIME LATER, THE PRIEST, CONSIDERED A VERY STABLE INDIVIDUAL, PAINTED HIS FACE GREEN AND BECAME A SEX-CRAZED MANIAC.


"THE CHURCH'S EXPLANATION FOR THE PRIEST'S BEHAVIOR WAS DEMONIC POSSESSION.


"HOWEVER... AFTER AN ATTEMPTED EXORCISM WAS UNSUCCESSFUL...


"THE PRIEST REVEALED HE WAS WEARING THE MASK... AND REPENTED FOR SUCCUMBING TO TEMPTATION.
"HE CLAIMED THIS MASK MERGED WITH HIS FACE, AND FORCED HIM TO DO UNSPEAKABLE THINGS.


"THAT'S WHERE I CAME IN.
"THE CHURCH HIRED ME TO TRACE ITS ORIGINS.
"I DISCOVERED IT'S OLD. OVER A THOUSAND YEARS. MADE WITH AN AFRICAN TECHNIQUE BUT WITH SCANDINAVIAN MOTIFS.
"I RAN SUBSTANCE TESTS ON IT. I FOUND NOTHING TOXIC, HALLUCINOGENIC OR OTHERWISE, THAT COULD AFFECT THE HUMAN BODY.
"THE CHURCH WANTED AN EXPLANATION AND I COULDN'T GIVE THEM ONE. I HAD NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT MASK. NO ONE HAD."
THE CHURCH WANTED THE MASK DESTROYED UNTIL I FOUND YOUR MUSEUM, WHICH WAS WILLING TO DONATE A SMALL FORTUNE FOR ITS ACQUISITION. AND THAT'S THE END OF THE STORY.
IF YOU'RE FINALLY DONE, I'VE HEARD A LOT OF HEARSAY, BUT JUST LIKE GHOSTS AND UFOs, I DON'T BELIEVE THERE'S ANYTHING *UNEXPLAINABLE* ABOUT THIS MASK.
SO EXPLAIN IT.
SUPPOSE ALL THE POWER THIS MASK HAS IS THE PERCEPTION OF WHAT IT MEANS TO THE PERSON WEARING IT--
--THE POWER TO BECOME SOMEONE, SOME*THING* ELSE.
THE OPPORTUNITY TO LET GO OF ALL FEAR, ANGER, OR INHIBITION. TO PROVIDE THE WEARER THE CHANCE TO GRAB THEIR DESTINY AND EMBRACE IT.


"THE PILOT WANTED TO DIE.
"THE GIRL NEEDED HER FATHER OUT OF HER LIFE.
"AND THE PRIEST, WELL, THERE'S NO MYSTERY WHY HE WENT CRAZY."
THEY EACH PUT ON THE MASK AND MADE THEIR DEEPEST DESIRES REALITY. SURE, THERE WERE SOME UNLIKELY EVENTS AND ODD COINCIDENCES, BUT OCCASIONALLY THAT HAPPENS TO EVERYONE.
SEE THERE, I'VE EXPLAINED IT. IT'S NO LONGER UNEXPLAINED.
THEN TRY ON THE MASK. WHY NOT SEE FOR YOURSELF IF THERE'S SOME UNEXPLAINABLE FORCE IN IT THAT'LL AFFECT *YOUR* DESTINY?
Uhhh...
NAH, THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
SUIT YOURSELF.
BESIDES, ONCE THIS THING IS IN THE MUSEUM, WE'LL NEVER HEAR ABOUT IT AGAIN.
5074 W 92
GOTH
10 MILS
LUCAS RE '00

MASK-ERADE
MARC CAMPOS

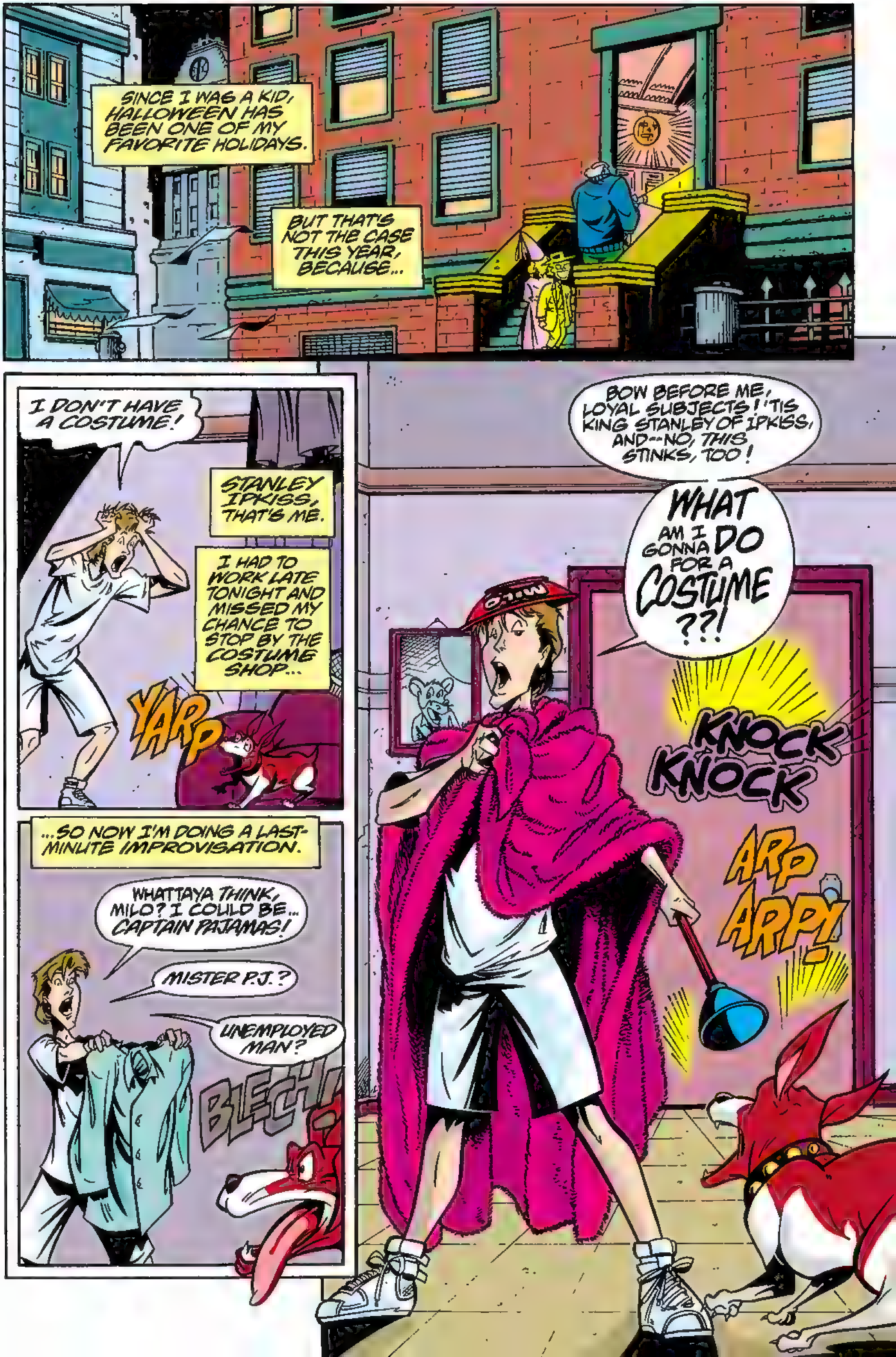
script
MICHAEL EURY

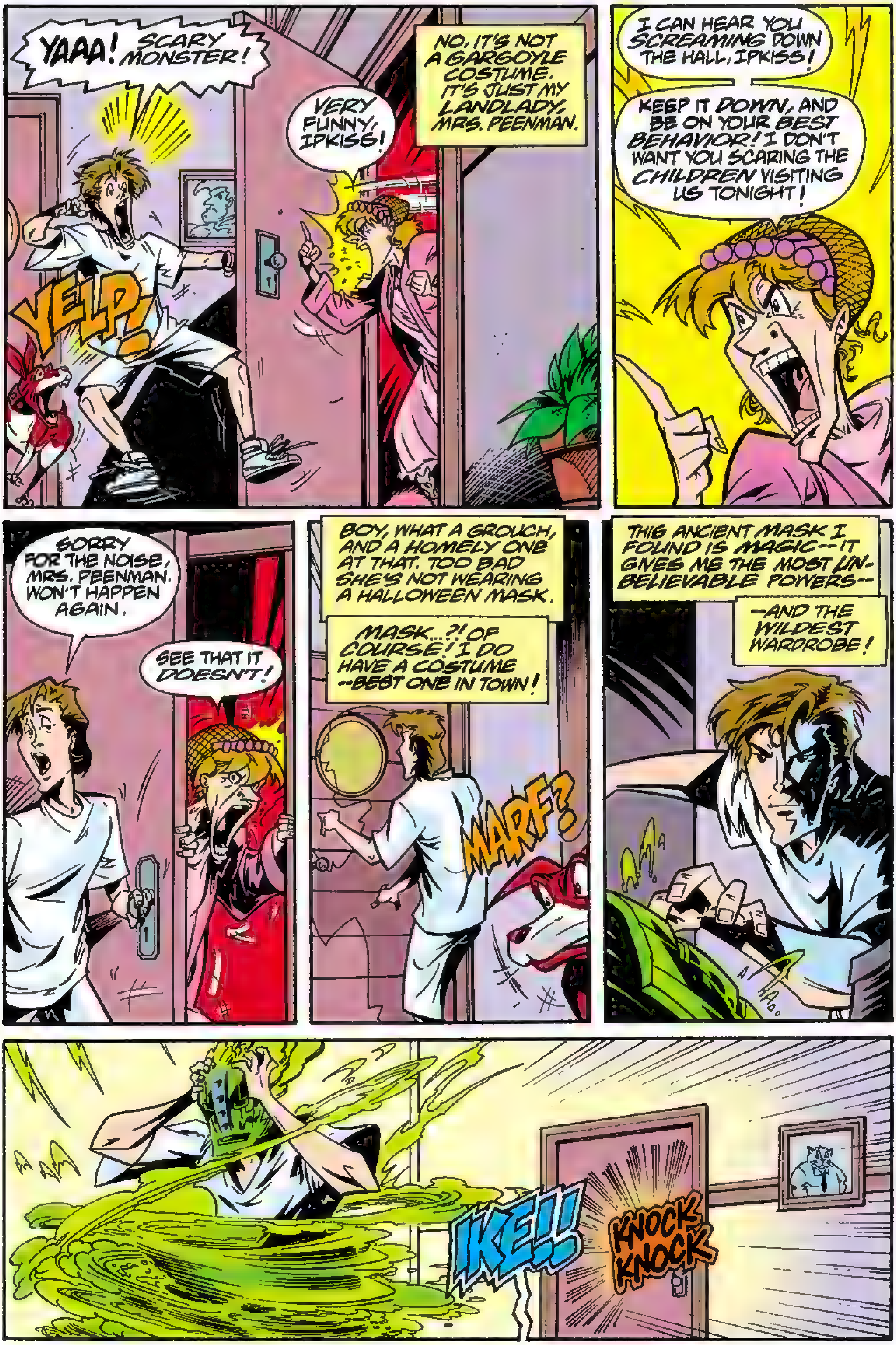
art
MARC CAMPOS

colors
MATT WEBB

lettering
CLEM ROBINS

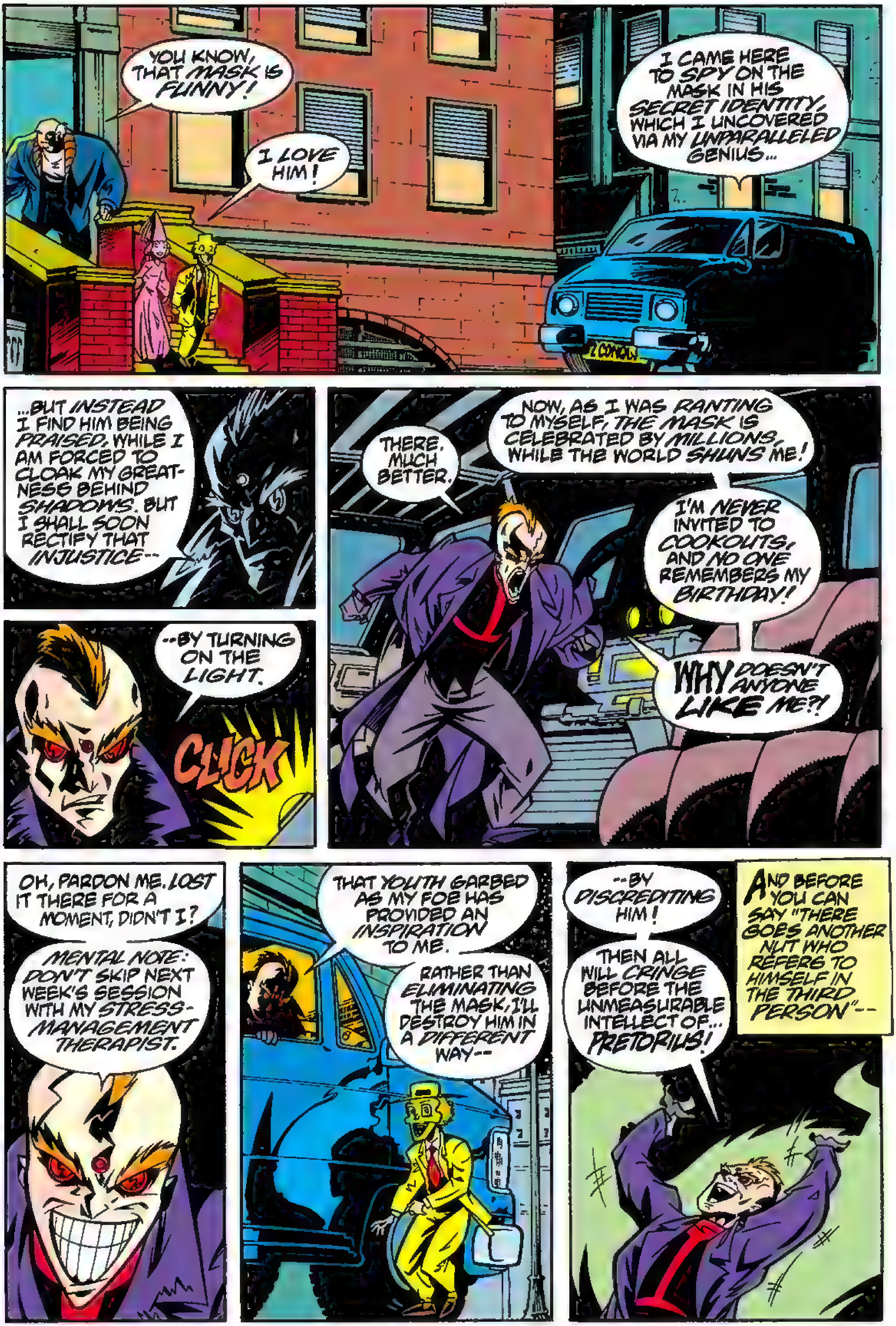
title illustration
MARC CAMPOS

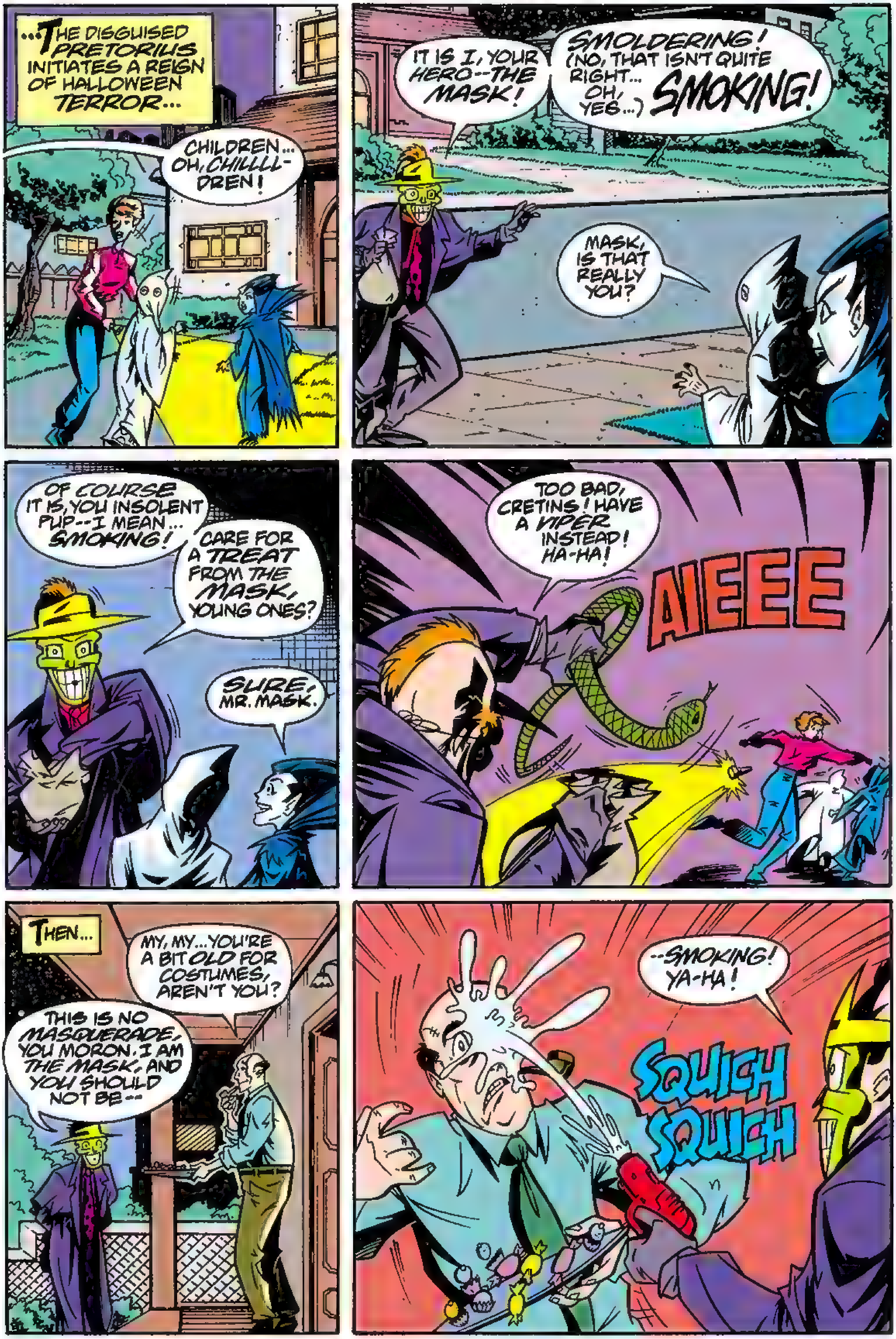

SINCE I WAS A KID, HALLOWEEN HAS BEEN ONE OF MY FAVORITE HOLIDAYS.
BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE THIS YEAR, BECAUSE...
I DON'T HAVE A COSTUME!
STANLEY IPKISS, THAT'S ME.
I HAD TO WORK LATE TONIGHT AND MISSED MY CHANCE TO STOP BY THE COSTUME SHOP...
YARP
...SO NOW I'M DOING A LAST-MINUTE IMPROVISATION.
WHATTAYA THINK, MILO? I COULD BE... CAPTAIN PAJAMAS!
MISTER P.J.?
UNEMPLOYED MAN?
BLECH!
BOW BEFORE ME, LOYAL SUBJECTS! 'TIS KING STANLEY OF IPKISS, AND--NO, THIS STINKS, TOO!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO FOR A COSTUME ??!
KNOCK KNOCK
ARP ARP!

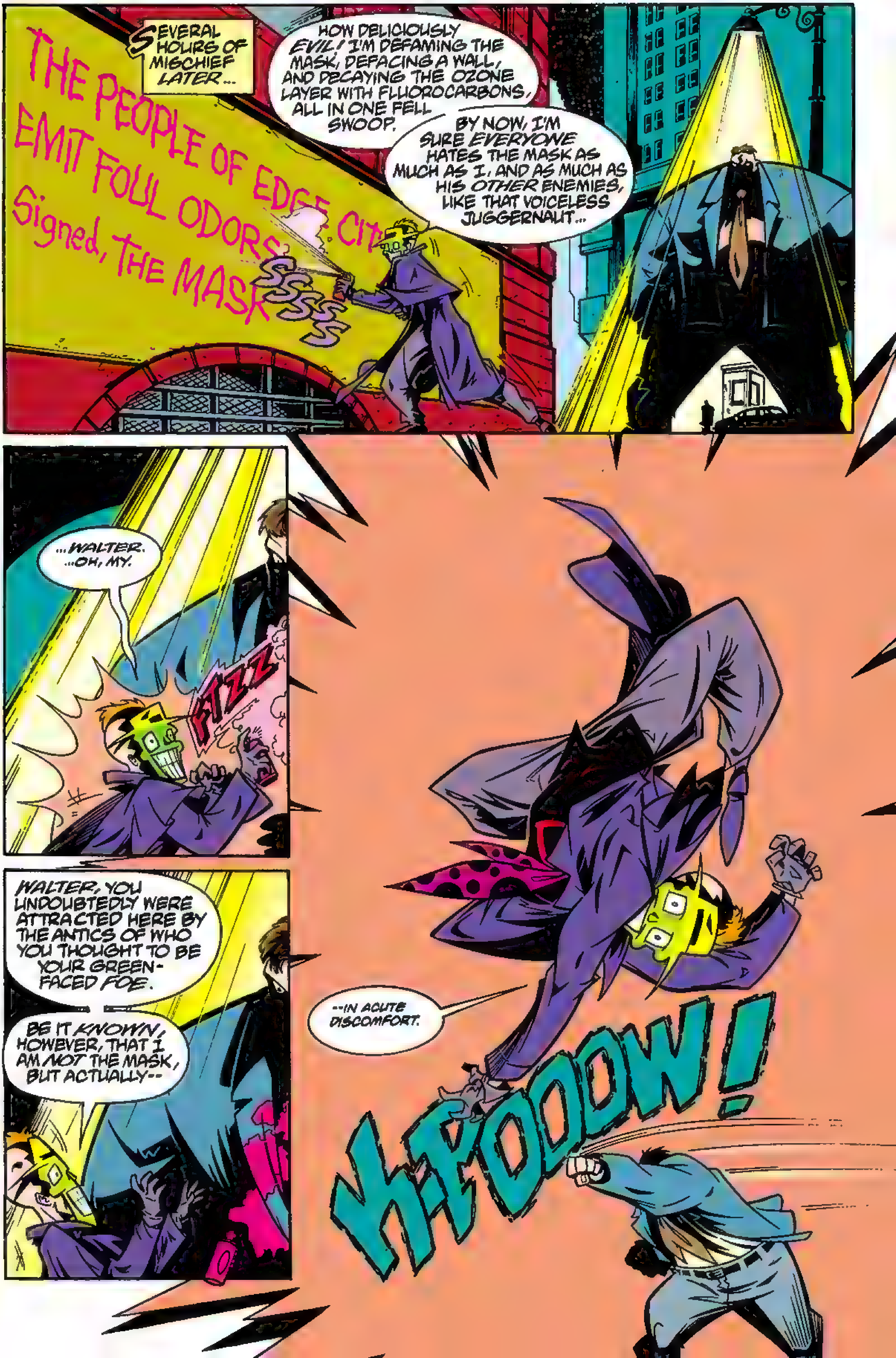

YAAA! SCARY MONSTER!
YELP!
VERY FUNNY, IPKISS!
NO, IT'S NOT A GARGOYLE COSTUME. IT'S JUST MY LANDLADY, MRS. PEENMAN.
I CAN HEAR YOU SCREAMING DOWN THE HALL, IPKISS!
KEEP IT DOWN, AND BE ON YOUR BEST BEHAVIOR! I DON'T WANT YOU SCARING THE CHILDREN VISITING US TONIGHT!
SORRY FOR THE NOISE, MRS. PEENMAN. WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
SEE THAT IT DOESN'T!
BOY, WHAT A GROUCH, AND A HOMELY ONE AT THAT. TOO BAD SHE'S NOT WEARING A HALLOWEEN MASK.
MASK...?! OF COURSE! I DO HAVE A COSTUME --BEST ONE IN TOWN!
MARF?
THIS ANCIENT MASK I FOUND IS MAGIC--IT GIVES ME THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE POWERS--
--AND THE WILDEST WARDROBE!
IKE!!
KNOCK KNOCK

MASK-ERADE
TRICK OR TREAT, SMELL MY FEET--
--GIVE ME SOMETHIN' GOOOOOD TO EAT!
WOW!
HEY...

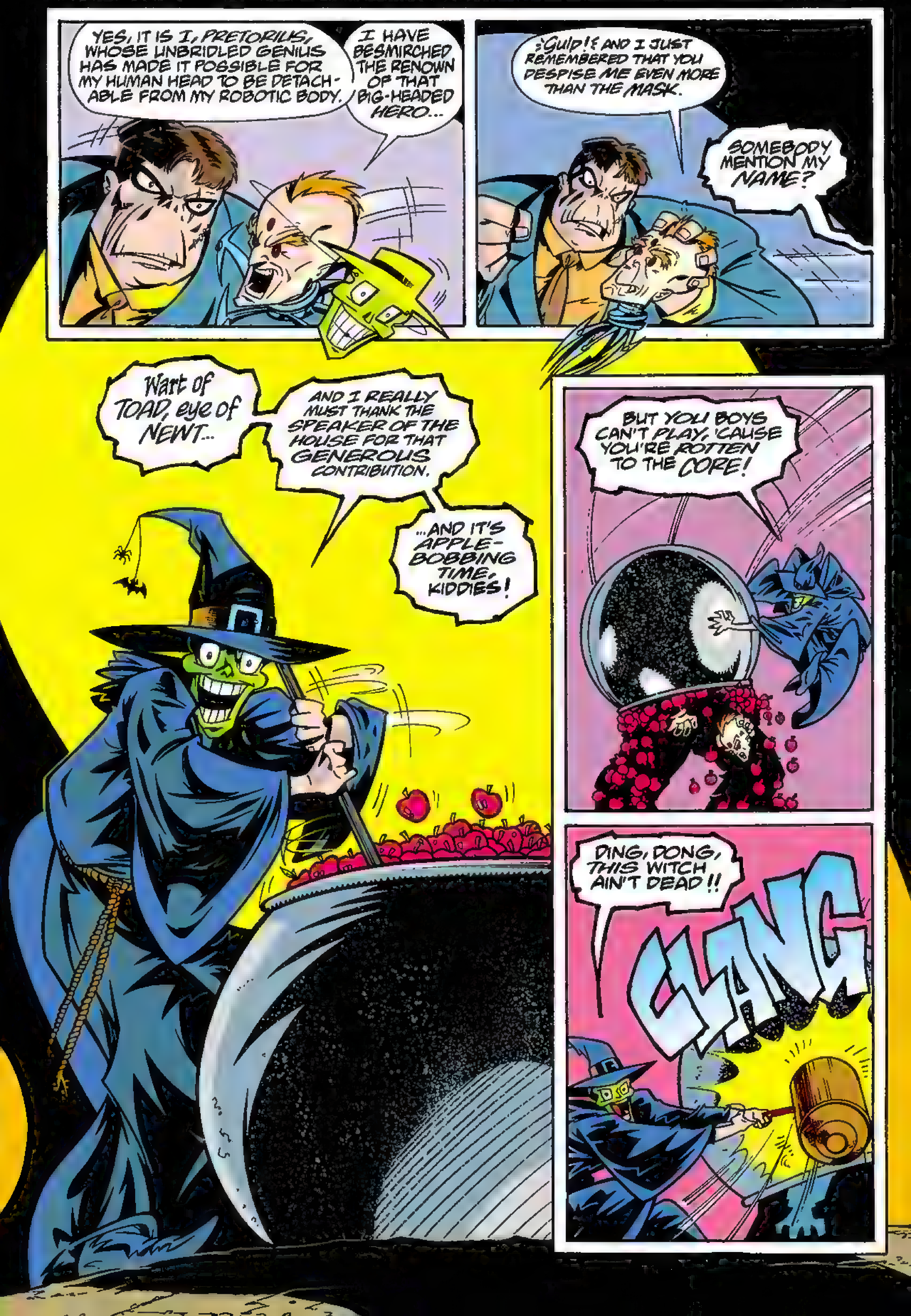
...YOUR COSTUME IS, LIKE, SOOO COOL, BETTER'N MINE. WHERE'DJA GET IT?
WELL...
...THE MASK'S SSSMOKIN' ENSEMBLE IS COURTESY OF MISTER CHRIS, DESIGNER FOR WHACKED-OUT HEROES AND VILLAINS ALIKE.
WHOA...HE MUST BE THE REAL MASK!
NOW DO AS YOUR MOTHER SAYS, CHILDREN, AND RUN ON BACK TO YOUR TRICK-OR-TREATING. AND remember...
...DON'T STRAY FROM YOUR ADULT CHAPERONE, STAY TOGETHER IN YOUR GROUP, DON'T ENTER THE CARS OR HOUSES OF STRANGERS, HAVE A GROWNUP EXAMINE YOUR CANDY BEFORE YOU EAT IT, ALWAYS CARRY A FLASHLIGHT, AND WHATEVER YOU DO--
--MAKE SURE YOU CLAIM YOUR CANDY AS INCOME, OR THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THE I.R.S. MIGHT DO TO YOU!

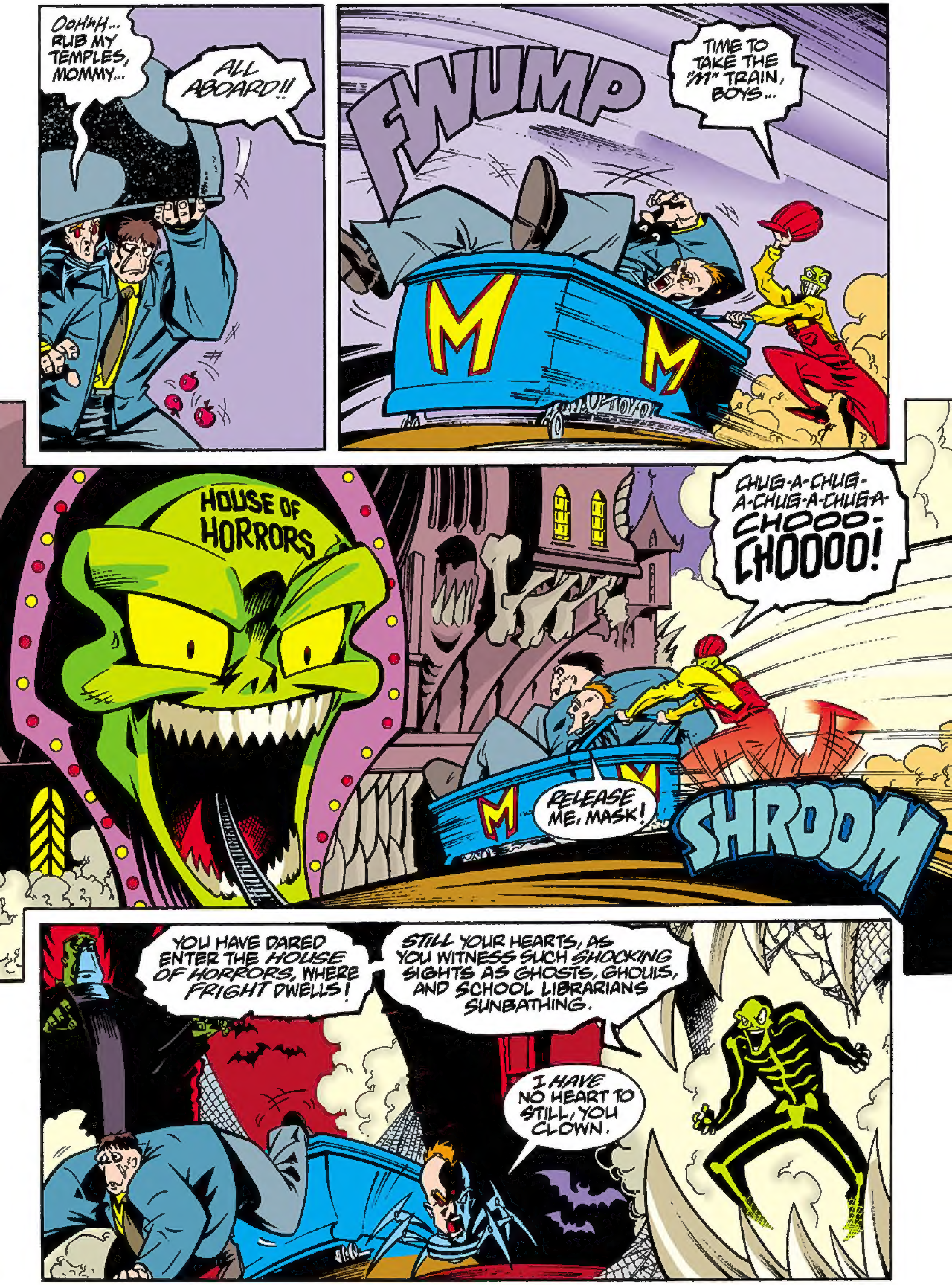

YOU KNOW, THAT MASK IS FUNNY!
I LOVE HIM!
I CAME HERE TO SPY ON THE MASK IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY, WHICH I UNCOVERED VIA MY UNPARALLELED GENIUS...
...BUT INSTEAD I FIND HIM BEING PRAISED, WHILE I AM FORCED TO CLOAK MY GREATNESS BEHIND SHADOWS. BUT I SHALL SOON RECTIFY THAT INJUSTICE--
--BY TURNING ON THE LIGHT.
CLICK
THERE, MUCH BETTER.
NOW, AS I WAS RANTING TO MYSELF, THE MASK IS CELEBRATED BY MILLIONS, WHILE THE WORLD SHUNS ME!
I'M NEVER INVITED TO COOKOUTS, AND NO ONE REMEMBERS MY BIRTHDAY!
WHY DOESN'T ANYONE LIKE ME?!
OH, PARDON ME. LOST IT THERE FOR A MOMENT, DIDN'T I?
MENTAL NOTE: DON'T SKIP NEXT WEEK'S SESSION WITH MY STRESS-MANAGEMENT THERAPIST.
THAT YOUTH GARBED AS MY FOE HAS PROVIDED AN INSPIRATION TO ME.
RATHER THAN ELIMINATING THE MASK, I'LL DESTROY HIM IN A DIFFERENT WAY--
--BY DISCREDITING HIM!
THEN ALL WILL CRINGE BEFORE THE UNMEASURABLE INTELLECT OF... PRETORIUS!
AND BEFORE YOU CAN SAY "THERE GOES ANOTHER NUT WHO REFERS TO HIMSELF IN THE THIRD PERSON"--

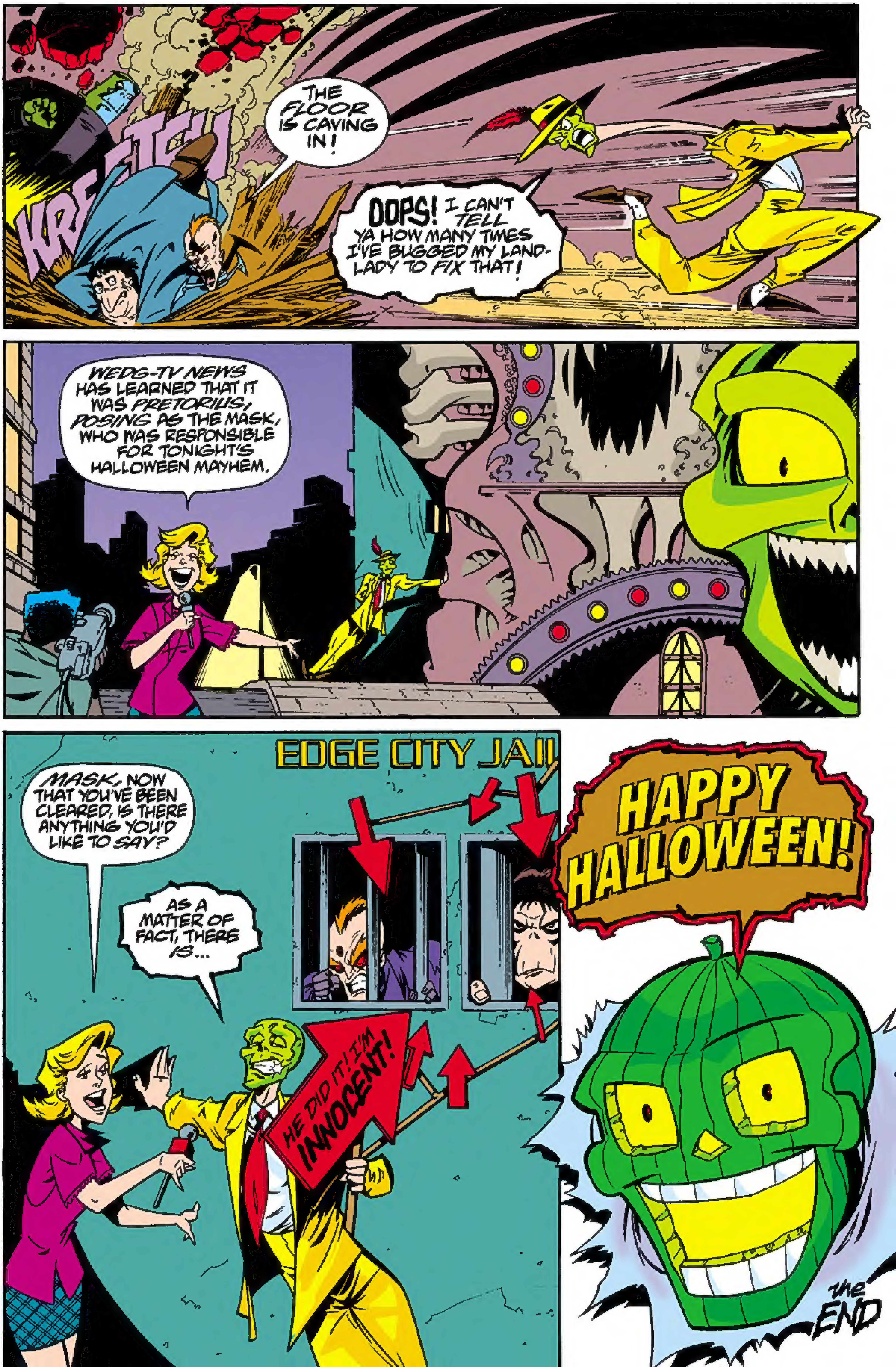

...THE DISGUISED PRETORIUS INITIATES A REIGN OF HALLOWEEN TERROR...
CHILDREN... OH, CHILLLL-DREN!
IT IS I, YOUR HERO--THE MASK!
SMOLDERING! (NO, THAT ISN'T QUITE RIGHT... OH, YES...) SMOKING!
MASK, IS THAT REALLY YOU?
OF COURSE IT IS, YOU INSOLENT PUP--I MEAN... SMOKING!
CARE FOR A TREAT FROM THE MASK, YOUNG ONES?
SURE, MR. MASK.
TOO BAD, CRETINS! HAVE A VIPER INSTEAD! HA-HA!
AIEEE
THEN...
MY, MY... YOU'RE A BIT OLD FOR COSTUMES, AREN'T YOU?
THIS IS NO MASQUERADE, YOU MORON. I AM THE MASK, AND YOU SHOULD NOT BE--
--SMOKING! YA-HA!
SQUICH SQUICH


SEVERAL HOURS OF MISCHIEF LATER...
THE PEOPLE OF EDGE CIT
EMIT FOUL ODORS.
Signed, THE MASK
SSSSS
HOW DELICIOUSLY *EVIL!* I'M DEFAMING THE MASK, DEFACING A WALL, AND DECAYING THE OZONE LAYER WITH FLUOROCARBONS, ALL IN ONE FELL SWOOP.
BY NOW, I'M SURE *EVERYONE* HATES THE MASK AS MUCH AS I, AND AS MUCH AS HIS *OTHER* ENEMIES, LIKE THAT VOICELESS JUGGERNAUT...
...*WALTER.* ...OH, MY.
FIZZ
WALTER, YOU UNDOUBTEDLY WERE ATTRACTED HERE BY THE ANTICS OF WHO YOU THOUGHT TO BE YOUR GREEN-FACED *FOE.*
BE IT *KNOWN,* HOWEVER, THAT I AM *NOT* THE MASK, BUT ACTUALLY--
--IN ACUTE DISCOMFORT.
K-POOOW!

BACK AT STANLEY'S APARTMENT...
OKAY, MILO, THOSE CANDY MOOCHERS ARE GONE--
SPLORCH
YAP!
--SO IT'S TIME FOR US TO WATCH HORROR MOVIES!
ARK ARK
WE INTERRUPT "BLOOD-PRESSURE-BOOSTING THEATER" FOR THIS SPECIAL WEDG-TV NEWS REPORT...
NOT NOW...!
AFTER AN EVENING OF FRIGHTENING HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREATERS AND INNOCENT CITIZENS, THEREBY TARNISHING HIS IMAGE AS A HERO--
--THE MASK CONTINUES TO WREAK HAVOC BY BATTLING THE MONSTROUS WALTER IN DOWNTOWN EDGE CITY.
WHAT?!!
I CAN'T SIT HERE WHILE SOME PHONY RUINS THE MASK'S REPUTATION...
YIP
AS I'VE REPEATEDLY TOLD YOU, WALTER--
--I AM NOT THE MASK!
POP!


YES, IT IS I, PRETORIUS, WHOSE UNBRIDLED GENIUS HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR MY HUMAN HEAD TO BE DETACHABLE FROM MY ROBOTIC BODY.
I HAVE BESMIRCHED THE RENOWN OF THAT BIG-HEADED HERO...
¡Gulp!¡ AND I JUST REMEMBERED THAT YOU DESPISE ME EVEN MORE THAN THE MASK.
SOMEBODY MENTION MY NAME?
Wart of TOAD, eye of NEWT...
AND I REALLY MUST THANK THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE FOR THAT GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION.
...AND IT'S APPLE-BOBBING TIME, KIDDIES!
BUT YOU BOYS CAN'T PLAY, 'CAUSE YOU'RE ROTTEN TO THE CORE!
DING, DONG, THIS WITCH AIN'T DEAD!!
CLANG


OOHHH... RUB MY TEMPLES, MOMMY...
ALL ABOARD!!
FWUMP
TIME TO TAKE THE "M" TRAIN, BOYS...
M M
HOUSE OF HORRORS
CHUG-A-CHUG-A-CHUG-A-CHUG-A-CHOOO-CHOOOO!
RELEASE ME, MASK!
M M
SHROOM
YOU HAVE DARED ENTER THE *HOUSE OF HORRORS*, WHERE *FRIGHT* DWELLS!
STILL YOUR HEARTS, AS YOU WITNESS SUCH *SHOCKING* SIGHTS AS GHOSTS, GHOULS, AND SCHOOL LIBRARIANS SUNBATHING.
I HAVE NO HEART TO STILL, YOU CLOWN.


KRETCH
THE FLOOR IS CAVING IN!
OOPS! I CAN'T TELL YA HOW MANY TIMES I'VE BUGGED MY LANDLADY TO FIX THAT!
WEDG-TV NEWS HAS LEARNED THAT IT WAS PRETORIUS, POSING AS THE MASK, WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR TONIGHT'S HALLOWEEN MAYHEM.
EDGE CITY JAIL
MASK, NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN CLEARED, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO SAY?
AS A MATTER OF FACT, THERE IS...
HE DID IT! I'M INNOCENT!
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!
the END

ADVENTURES OF THE MASK®
OMNIBUS

Life in Edge City has always been tough for Stanley Ipkiss. He's as good natured and decent as they come, but nice don't pay the bulldog or make points with the ladies. Stanley knows he's destined for greater things, but how to get there? Enter the Mask, an ancient artifact that imbues its wearer with the power to do just about anything one desires . . . especially if one desires zoot suits, pies, mallets, cartoon bug eyes, and a penchant for Latin song stylings. Stanley now has the world on a string, but there are many in this world of vastly lesser niceness than Stanley who desire the Mask's power for themselves. With great power comes big trouble . . . and even bigger laughs!

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DARK HORSE BOOKS

SON OF ULTRON